103 *The Coaſt* extends from the *Bolſcheretſkoi* or Great River to the *Tegbil*.

Awatſcha extends from the *Bolſcheretſkoi* to fort *Awatſcha*.

Bobrovoi or *Beaver Sea* is the diſtrict round *Kamtſchatka*.

Koreka, from the *Koreki* that inhabit it, extends from the north of the *Kamtſchatka* to the *Tegbil*.

Ukoi is the eaſtern coaſt from the river *Ukoi*.

Tegbil is the weſtern coaſt from the river *Tegbil*.

133 361 563 *Kamtſchatka* is plentifully furniſhed with rivers; however they are ſo little that none of them are navigable by the ſmalleſt veſſels, except the river *Kamtſchatka*, which will carry ſmall veſſels 200 verſts upwards from its mouth. Into this river it is reported that ſome *Ruſſians* were brought by ſea, long before its ſubjection to *Ruſſia*. It is at preſent called *Theodotoſhine*, from the chief of thoſe people thrown a-ſhore, whoſe name was *Theodot*. Next to this, the moſt conſiderable rivers are, the *Bolſchaia-reka*, or Great River, *Awatſcha* and *Tegbil*; upon which the *Ruſſians* have ſettlements.
133 *Kamtſchatka* is likewiſe very well furniſhed with lakes, particularly about the river of that name, where they are ſo numerous that there is no paſſage over land in the ſummer-time. Some of them are very large: the moſt conſiderable are, the lake of *Nerpitche*, which is near the mouth of the *Kamtſchatka*; the *Kronotzkoy*, out of which runs the river *Krodakigbe*; and the *Kurilſkoy*, out of which runs the river *Oſernoi*.

133 712 R 177 .71 The river *Kamtſchatka* riſes in a marſhy ground, and firſt runs north-eaſt; then inclines more to the eaſt, and turning at once towards the ſouth-weſt, falls into the ocean in 56° 30′ north latitude. From its ſource to its mouth, in a ſtrait line, is 496 verſts; but the length of its courſe, according to the exacteſt computation, is about 525 verſts; during which it receives into it many brooks and rivers. About two verſts from its mouth, upon the right ſide, are three deep bays. There are ſeveral forts built along the banks of this river by the *Ruſſian* Coſſacks, to awe

361 different buildings; the entrance into the fort is by a ſmall
563 gate on the weſt ſide. Beyond the fort was a chapel, now converted
R into a church conſecrated to St. Nicholas, with a belfry
177 upon pillars. There are about 30 houſes of inhabitants, one publick
.71 houſe for ſelling brandy, and a diſtillery. There are about
45 Coſſacks; and though their children pay the common head
tax, yet 14 of them do duty with the other Coſſacks. This fort
is the weakeſt of all; but they ſeem to be very ſecure, as the
neighbouring *Kamtſchadales* were almoſt the firſt that ſubmitted,
361 and have always been faithful, and lived peaceably. With regard
R to its ſituation it has great advantages: firſt, all veſſels that
177 come by ſea can come into the Great river, from which they
.71 receive their goods at the firſt hand: ſecondly, they receive great
profits from the perſons that arrive there, whom they furniſh
with lodging and board: thirdly, they are great gainers by the
tranſporting goods from thence to the other forts: fourthly, they
have a better opportunity than the others of getting *Kamtſchatka*
beavers, which is now reckoned a principal commodity: fifthly,
132 in the ſummer they have the greateſt plenty of fiſh, which they
136 catch with little trouble and expence; for this reaſon the commander
in chief of all the *Kamtſchatka* forts generally lives here,
ſending out deputies to the others. The only diſadvantage they
have is, that in the ſummer, during the time of fiſhing, they are
very ſubject to rainy weather, which ſpoils a great many of their
137 fiſh, and thereby reduces them to great difficulties for food. If
this river was furniſhed with wood ſufficient the difficulty might
be removed, as inſtead of drying them in the ſun they might
ſmoke them, as the inhabitants of *Ochotſka* do. But this is impracticable
becauſe of the diſtance of the wood, and the trouble
of bringing it down. It is ſo ſcarce here, that what they abſolutely
muſt have for the boiling of ſalt and train oil, they are
forced to provide at the diſtance of three days' journey, and can
bring no more than will ſerve to make 40 pounds of ſalt.

The

The upper fort of *Kamtſchatka* was the firſt built, and 361
for ſome years reckoned the principal, as the chief commiſſary 563
lived there. It ſtands upon the left bank of the *Kamtſchatka*, R
near the mouth of the little *Kaly*, about 69 verſts from the riſe of 177
the *Kamtſchatka*, 242 verſts in the ſtraight road from the *Bolſcheretſkoi* 17
fort. It is 17 fathom ſquare; the gate fronts the river, and over it is a warehouſe. Within the fort is the office for receiving the taxes, a room for keeping the hoſtages, and two magazines. Without the fort is a church conſecrated to St. *Nicholas*, the commiſſary's houſe, a publick houſe, diſtillery, and 22 private houſes for the accommodation of the garriſon, which conſiſts of 56 Coſſacks.
This fort has the advantage of the *Bolſcheretſkoi*, the weather being 137
here generally pretty good, and the wood, though only poplar, can be procured with little trouble, and is ſo large and ſubſtantial that it is very uſeful for building: beſides the ſoil is better here, being
much fitter for agriculture than any of the other parts. The fiſhery 136
is indeed very poor, being at ſuch a diſtance from the ſea. The fiſh come up in ſmall numbers, and ſo very late, that the inhabitants of the *Niſhnaſhaltalſki* fort make all their winter proviſion before they begin to fiſh in the upper fort; ſo that almoſt every ſpring there is a ſcarcity of proviſions. Their ſalt and train oil they either buy from the inhabitants of the lower fort, or, notwithſtanding the great diſtance, they go themſelves and boil it at the mouth of the river *Kamtſchatka*, which is 400 verſts from the upper fort. Formerly they uſed to have great plenty of ſea beavers in the Beaver Sea, but at preſent very few of them are caught; ſo that the inhabitants have their only hope of ſupport from agriculture, to which if they apply themſelves, they may expect more profit than from any commerce with the natives; and, if they neglect it, it will be impoſſible for them to live there. 361

The lower *Kamtſchatka* fort is 397 verſts diſtant from the upper R
fort, and ſtands upon the ſame ſide of the river, about 30 verſts 177

17

chatka expedition upon the haven of *Petropaulauſkay*. Its great 361
beauty is its church, which is finely ſituated, and very well R.
built. This fort has almoſt the ſame advantages and diſadvan- 177
tages as the *Bolſcheretſkoi* fort, with this difference, that here the .71
hunting of the beaver is more convenient; but the water is bad 312
and unwholſome, ſo that they ſend frequently from this bay to
the river *Awatſcha* for their freſh water.

We can give no account of the fifth fort, which was built upon the river *Tegbil* after my departure from *Kamtſchatka*. It was garriſoned with 37 male inhabitants. Mr. *Steller* tells us, that this fort was built with a view to reſtrain the ſettled *Koreki*, and for a ſtage to thoſe who travel round the *Penſchinſka* ſea to *Ochotſka*; and, in caſe of neceſſity, to protect the rein-deer or wandering *Koreki* againſt the *Tchukotſkoi*. The inhabitants of this fort can deprive thoſe of the lower *Kamtſchatka* fort of ſeveral advantages, becauſe they lie more convenient for hunting the ſable upon the river *Tegbil*, and the *Koreki* rather chuſe to bring their goods to them than to the two other forts, as being nearer.

CHAP. VI.

Of the Manner in which the Coſſacks live there; of their DISTILLERY, PROVISIONS, *&c.* 563

THE Coſſacks of *Kamtſchatka* live almoſt in the ſame manner as the natives, feeding like them upon roots and fiſhes; and their occupations are nearly the ſame. In the ſummer they catch fiſh for their winter proviſion, and gather nettles, of which they make nets. Their difference only ſeems to

563 to conſiſt in this, that the Coſſacks live in houſes, and the natives
in huts under ground; the Coſſacks uſually eat their fiſh boiled,
and the natives moſtly dry; beſides, the Coſſacks dreſs their's
ſeveral ways different from the natives. As it is impoſſible for
people to live there without the help of women, who are ſo
neceſſary in many parts of their work, ſuch as cleaning their
fiſh, drying their roots, ſpinning and making their ſhirts and
cloaths, and as the Coſſacks firſt ſettled in *Kamtſchatka* without
their wives, whom upon account of the difficulty of the journey
they could not tranſport thither, I ſhall now relate what methods
they uſed to make up for this deficiency.

144 One may eaſily imagine, that the Coſſacks did not reduce theſe
563 people without uſing force; and in theſe wars they took priſoners
177 many women and children as well as men, and obliged
them to perform all the labour. The care of overlooking theſe
567 ſervants was entruſted to ſuch as they made their concubines,
whom they frequently married if they had any children by
them; and ſometimes the natives offered them their daughters,
whom they promiſed to marry as ſoon as the prieſt arrived:
ſo that it ſometimes happened that the Coſſacks had a marriage
and chriſtening at the ſame time; for then there was but one
prieſt in all *Kamtſchatka*, who lived in the lower fort, and
once in a year, or once in two years, viſited the other
ſettlements.

563 The Coſſacks, a people rude enough themſelves, ſeemed to be
567 pretty well pleaſed with the manner of living here, uſing the
natives as their ſlaves, who furniſhed them with ſables and
other furrs in abundance, and paſſing the greateſt part of their
time in playing at cards: their only want ſeemed to be that of
brandy. Before there were any brandy ſhops they uſed to meet
in the office where the tax was received: here the gameſters
brought their furrs, and, when they had no furrs, even their ſlaves;
and

and ſometimes they played 'till both parties had pawned their 563
cloaths for brandy. Such way of living, one may eaſily believe, 567
was attended with great confuſion; but what the poor ſlaves ſuffered is almoſt incredible, being obliged ſometimes to change their maſters twenty times a day.

The invention of making ſpirits happened accidentally. The 563
Coſſacks, after the manner of the natives, made a great proviſion of all kinds of berries for the winter. It happened ſometimes that they began to ferment in the ſpring, and could be uſed no other way than in drink. This drink was obſerved to cauſe drunkenneſs when taken in great quantities; upon which they began to diſtil it, and, to their great ſurpriſe and pleaſure, found that it produced a good ſpirit. They have ſince diſcovered that they could make brandy from an infuſion of the ſweet graſs, and now they have ſpirits in plenty. Their method of preparing this herb for diſtillery we have already explained.

Thoſe that are curious to know whence the Coſſacks ſettled 563
here obtained their riches, muſt be informed that they owe them 661
to the following circumſtances: firſt, when they conquered the 651
natives they made all the plunder they could: ſecondly, every 439
party of Coſſacks, that was employed in gathering the taxes,
obliged each tributary native, beſides the crown tax, to give them R.
four fox-ſkins and one ſable, which they divided among them- 177
ſelves: thirdly, by their commerce with the natives, whom they .65
obliged to pay a very high price for every trifle they furniſhed
them with. Although, at preſent, the Coſſacks are forbidden
to take any thing more than the crown tax, yet they are ſtill
allowed to ſet what price they pleaſe upon their goods; and
indeed they ſell them, or change them for furrs, at very great
profits, and ſometimes for proviſions, nets, and boats. Without 563
this they would not be able to live upon their ſmall pay, which
is no more than what they uſed to receive at *Jakutſki*, and,
both in money and proviſions, does not amount to above 14
rubles

563 rubles a year; and here they cannot maintain and cloath themſelves for leſs than 40.

CHAP. VII.

Of their TRADE.

441
563 ALTHOUGH from the very beginning ſome people went along with the tax-gatherers, who carried little trifles to diſpoſe of among the natives, theſe people could not be called merchants, becauſe they did duty in the ſame manner as the Coſſacks. By degrees many of them got themſelves enrolled under that name, on paying the poll-tax, and as ſuch ſettled with their families in theſe places; but the true merchants began to bring conſiderable quantities of goods firſt to *Ochotſka*, and then to *Kamtſchatka*, at the time when the ſecond expedition to *Kamtſchatka* took place. The number of the people increaſing made the demand greater; and their profits were ſo conſiderable, that ſeveral, who came out of *Ruſſia* as common labourers, in ſix or ſeven years began to trade for 15000 rubles or more: but, on the other hand, ſome were ruined from their extraordinary gains, which led them into various ſorts of luxury and extravagance: and thoſe merchants particularly who ſent factors thither run the greateſt riſk; however, the principals had the ſatisfaction to find that the government took care to ſee juſtice done them.

After the expedition to *Kamtſchatka* the trade began to be upon another footing, the officers and ſervants in this expedition buying their goods of the merchants for ready money; whereas they were obliged to give the inhabitants credit 'till they returned from their travelling among the *Kamtſchadales*, when they were paid

paid in furrs of different ſorts. In fine, the exchange of goods 563
with the *Kamtſchadales* and *Chineſe* is ſo profitable, that, notwithſtanding all expences occaſioned by the diſtance, dearneſs of 441
tranſport, and other difficulties, we may reckon that a 1000 rubles will produce 4000, provided they remain but one year in *Kamtſchatka*; but if they remain longer, there is a conſiderable loſs. The reaſons of this are, firſt, that upon their arrival, being flattered with the high prices of things, they ſell every thing, even their own cloaths and proviſions, hoping ſoon to leave the country, in which if diſappointed, they are obliged to buy them back again at double price: ſecondly, that the furrs by lying, loſe their colour and value: thirdly, that the place is exceſſively expenſive in regard to lodging, warehouſe-room, victuals, and ſeveral other particulars.

Goods demanded in *Kamtſchatka*, beſides the natural produce 439
of *Ruſſia*, are *European* goods, from *Siberia*, *Boharia*, and the *Calmuks*. From *Europe* they receive coarſe cloaths of various colours, linen, ſerges, knives, ſilk and cotton handkerchiefs, red wine, a little ſugar, tobacco, and ſeveral toys. From *Siberia*, iron, ſeveral iron and copper veſſels, and inſtruments, ſuch as knives, hatchets, ſaws, and fire-ſteels; alſo wax, hemp, yarn for nets, tanned deer-ſkins, coarſe *Ruſſian* linen and cloth. From *Boharia*, and the country of the *Calmuks*, they bring ſeveral different ſorts of cotton goods. From *China*, ſeveral ſilk and cotton ſtuffs, tobacco, coral, and needles, which are much preferred to thoſe from *Ruſſia*. From the *Koreki* they receive great quantities of rein-deer-ſkins, both dreſſed and undreſſed, which they may ſell in what quantities they pleaſe at any time. Merchants muſt take care not to have too great a ſtock 437
of any other goods; for the inhabitants of this place, *Ruſſians* 511
as well as natives, never buy any thing before they are in abſolute want of it, even if they could buy it at half price.

The

.241
●563
R.
177.
24

The Russian Government repeatedly tried to introduce agriculture and gardening into Kamchatka. For this purpose peasants from Southern Siberia and European Russia were transferred several times to Kamchatka, but all experiments have failed and the imported husbandmen turned to fishing and hunting. Only in the valley of the Kamchatka River, near the village Kluchevskoye, small sowings of barley are still being made, but without any economic importance.

Experiments with gardening appeared to be more successful. Potatoes grow all over Southern Kamchatka where the digging of edible roots had almost ceased. Turnips grow there and the inhabitants of Kluchevskoye also grow cabbage, which heads well.

CLIMATE OF KAMCHATKA

132

The following data on the climate of the Kamchatka Peninsula are based on observations made in 1908–1909 by the members of the Meteorological Division of the Riaboushinsky Expedition headed by Dr. V. A. Vlasov.[1]

As climate is one of the most effective nature-agents regulating human life, data concerning three chief regions of the country will be given: the western coast, the eastern coast and the central part, represented chiefly by the valley of the Kamchatka River. The western and the eastern shores represent maritime climates, while the climate of the central part may be characterized as a continental one.

The climate of the western coastline of Kamchatka is more severe than that of the eastern, due to the cold Okhotsk Sea. During the winter cold winds prevail, blowing from the Siberian continent, the region of the great Siberian anticyclone. A late spring and a cold summer characterize the climate of the western coast. On the eastern shore of Kamchatka, under the moderating influence of the Pacific Ocean, frosts in the winter are not so severe. Rain and snowfall are more abundant. However, the cold current arriving from the Bering Strait and the amount of ice which it brings delay the beginning of summer and reduce its temperature.

The climate of the central Kamchatka, confined by its western and eastern mountain ridges, i. e., the valley of the Kamchatka River, distinguishes itself by all the peculiarities of a continental climate, having a cold winter and a comparatively warm summer. In order to demonstrate what has been said of the three climatic regions, mean annual figures for three points are given: for Tighil on the western shore, Petropavlovsk on the eastern shore and Kluchevskoye in the valley of the Kamchatka River.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year
	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C	°C
Tighil	−20.0	−19.8	−13.6	−2.2	2.4	6.2	11.3	12.1	7.0	−1.0	−7.4	−17.2	−3.5
Petropavlovsk	−10.9	−11.2	− 7.0	−1.6	3.1	7.9	11.8	13.5	9.8	4.2	−1.8	− 6.6	1.9
Kluchevskoye	−16.4	−15.2	−11.2	−1.5	4.6	8.5	12.15	13.1	8.8	−1.4	−7.8	−18.0	−2.0

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[1] See V. A. Vlasov, The Kamchatka Expedition of F. P. Riabouchinsky organized by the Imperial Russian Geographical Society. Meteorological Division, vol. 1, part 1, *On the Climate of Kamchatka*; part 2, on *The Temperature of the Waters*. Moscow, 1916 (in Russian). Centigrade thermometers were used.

175 this was the only attempt to take Kamchatka by force, and it ended very unhappily for the Japanese.

721 When the Japanese were marching along the coast to the village Yavino, its inhabitants fled into the mountains, abandoning their houses, belongings, cattle and dogs. The Japanese finding no one in the village, occupied the Russian houses, hoisted a Japanese flag over the chapel and put up a post with a declaration of the annexation of Kamchatka to Japan. Some days later the Japanese returned to Osernaya taking with them all the cattle, horses and dogs from Yavino.

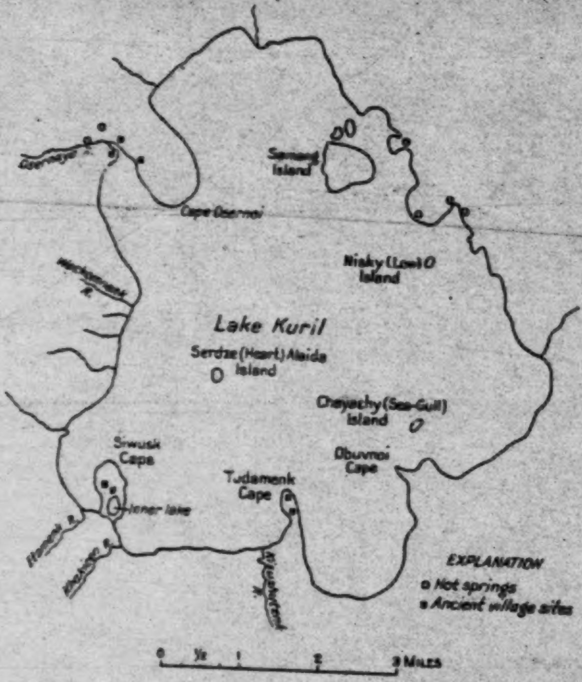
In the meantime a troop of Russian militia under command of Ensign Shaba arrived at the mouth of the Yavino River in a schooner from Bolsheretzk, and another detachment under Lieutenant Sotnikoff reached Yavino by land. Sotnikoff took command of both detachments. The combined Russian forces numbered only 80, and Sotnikoff did not venture an open attack but took refuge in a ruse. He despatched a man to Hundji, who pretended he had been sent by the inhabitants of Yavino to ask for a doctor and victuals. Hundji, a doctor and two interpreters all unarmed left Osernaya for Yavino. Along the way they were attacked from ambush. The interpreters were shot and Hundji and the doctor captured. Later a Russian detachment had a skirmish with a Japanese vanguard in which one Russian was killed and three were wounded. The Japanese doctor dressed their wounds. On the following morning the Japanese shot the cattle and dogs and left Osernaya in their schooners for the south.

609 This adventure resulted in the killing by the Russians of peaceful Japanese fishermen in many villages on the western coast of Kamchatka. Usually
563 the Kamchadal are well disposed toward the Japanese, who are just in their relations to the former, attending their sick and furnishing them with medicine.

167 After the Russian-Japanese War many Russian adventurers, mostly discharged soldiers, found their way from Vladivostok to Kamchatka. Some were attracted
568 by reports of rich profits obtained by sable hunting, others by the desire to introduce agriculture in Kamchatka, but they all remained and mixed with the native fishing population, Kamchadal and Russians. Another company of adventurers settled at the mouth of the Osernaya River, forming a new village. At first their condition was deplorable. Fishing was abundant but there was no market for exchange. They had no money, flour, tea and other commodities to which they were accustomed in their native places of European Russia. The women particularly longed for bread, and often said: "We would give up all the fish for one piece of bread, not mentioning our melons, fruits, meat, milk products and sweets." The majority of the immigrants were Ukrainians of southern Russia.

167 But two years before our arrival there all had changed. Enterprising firms, partly with American money, began to develop fisheries for the export of Kam-
228 chatka salmon. A saltery and a cannery were established in Osernaya and the
563 Russian colony there worked during the short summer as laborers. The fishing company furnished them with money, food, clothing, fuel and building material
464 and they were able to withstand the hardships caused by the most inhospitable of

167 seas, the Okhotsk, and the severest of climates. The factories were closed for the
● 563 eight winter months, but the summer was very busy. Scores of laborers were
brought on the company's steamers from the Amur River. Not all the necessary
228 structures were ready at that time, and the imported laborers slept under the
464 cover of primitive shades. Mountains of salt lay in the open, melting from rains.
A part of the laborers were busy preparing a kind of caviar from the roe of


Ozernaya R.
Samang Island
Cape Ozernoi
Nisky (Low) Island
Lake Kuril
Serdze (Heart) Alaida Island
Chayachy (Sea-Gull) Island
Obuvnoi Cape
Siwush Cape
Tudamenk Cape
Inner lake
R.
R.
R.
R.
EXPLANATION
Hot springs
Ancient village sites
0 ½ 1 2 3 Miles

63

228 salmon. After taking out the roe they threw overboard the split fish, causing
an enormous waste of food-material. The laborers in the saltery and cannery
threw out from their seines all other fish than salmon, and from the latter the
hump-back salmon, which was not in favor with the foreman of the plant.

182 From information gathered before my trip to the lake I knew that there were
several pits of ancient dwellings (see the map of the Kuril Lake). The natives
000 have either died out or were exterminated by the Russian conquerors. My party

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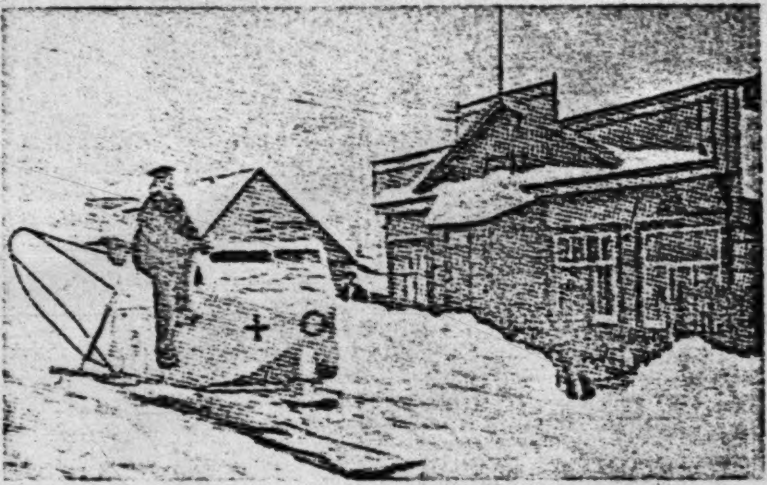

Medical aerosleigh.

175 648 231 wheel transport such as the cart, was unknown before the Revolution. For cattle, the Itel'mens built cold barns or sheds and provided some supplementary fodder in winter. However, the milk yield was very low, and livestock mortality was high.

[493] 175 177 648 From the Russians, the Itel'mens obtained improved means of production: firearms, nets, etc. Stone and bone implements were completely abandoned in favor of metal ones. Russian clothing and utensils began to come into use. The primitive semidugout was gradually (and by the beginning of the 19th century, completely) replaced by wooden board dwellings, and occasionally by log houses of the Russian type. Simultaneously with the absorption of Russian culture by the Itel'mens, a reverse process was also taking place in the 18th and 19th centuries. Soldiers, Cossacks and peasants, who were systematically being resettled on the peninsula after
● [563] the middle of the 18th century, married Itel'men women and acquired some elements of their way of life and culture. The result was that peculiar population of the peninsula which became known, as we have pointed out earlier, under the name of Kamchadals and was often mistakenly classified as Itel'men.

175 648 226 231 In the early 20th century, the condition of the Itel'mens deteriorated in consequence of the development of the Japanese capitalist fishing industry in Kamchatka. Predatory industrial fishing at the mouths of rivers during spawning runs caused almost annual failures of the native catch and led to inevitable famines.

Contemporary Life of the Itel'mens

175 648 During the civil war in the Far East, the Itel'mens actively helped the guerrilla units, and later the Red Army troops, in liquidating the White bands. The guerrilla units included many residents of the villages of Napana, Utkholok, Kovran and Sedanka. In 1921, the Soviet government was firmly established on the peninsula, and the reconstruction of the economy was launched.

361 712 R 177 .71 be built upon the ſite of the old hoſpital; that is, between the port and the lake. A battery alſo was to be erected upon the neck of land which ſeparates the bay from the lake, in order to protect the other part of the town. In ſhort, by this plan, the entrance of the bay would be defended by a ſufficiently ſtrong battery upon the leaſt elevated point of the left coaſt; and veſſels entering the bay could not eſcape the cannon, becauſe of the breakers on the right. There is at preſent upon the point of a rock, a battery of ſix or eight cannon, lately erected to ſalute our frigates.

563 712 R 177 .71 I need not add, that the augmentation of the garriſon forms a part of the plan, which conſiſts only at preſent of forty ſoldiers, or Coſſacs. Their mode of living and their dreſs are ſimilar to the Kamtſchadales, except that in time of ſervice they have a ſabre, firelock, and cartouch box; in other

reſpects

563 reſpects they are not diſtinguiſhable from the indigenes, but by their ſeatures and idiom.

161 361 With reſpect to the Kamtſchadale village, which forms a conſiderable part of the place, and is ſituated, as I have already ſaid, upon the narrow projection of land which cloſes in the entrance of the port, it is at preſent compoſed of from thirty to forty habitations, including winter and ſummer ones, called *iſbas* and *balagans*; and the number of inhabitants, taking in the garriſon, does not exceed a hundred, men, women and children. The intention is to increaſe them to upwards of four hundred.

13 To theſe details reſpecting the port of St. Peter and St. Paul, and its deſtined improvements, I ſhall add a few remarks upon the nature of the ſoil, the climate, and the

000 very common at this ſeaſon, it is not be wondered at that ſhipwrecks are ſo frequent on theſe coaſts: the veſſels are ſo ſmall as to have but one maſt; and, what is ſtill worſe, the ſailors who manage them, if report may be credited, have too little ſkill to be confided in.

The next day we reſumed our journey, and arrived at Bolcheretſk in the duſk of the evening.

As I forſee that my ſtay here will pro-
bably be long, from the neceſſity of wait-
ing till ſledges can be uſed, I ſhall proceed
with my deſcriptions, and the recital of
what I have ſeen myſelf, or learned from
my converſations with the Ruſſians and
361 Kamtſchadales. I ſhall begin with the
563 town, or fort of Bolcheretſk, for ſo it is
called, in Ruſſia (*oſtrog*, or *krepoſt*).

It is ſituated on the border of the Bol-

chaïa-

361 chaïa-reka, in a ſmall iſland formed by dif-
563 ferent branches of this river, which divide the town into three parts more or leſs inhabited. The moſt diſtant diviſion, and which is fartheſt to the eaſt, is a kind of ſuburb called *Paranchine*; it contains ten or twelve iſbas. South eaſt of Paranchine, is the middle diviſion, where there is alſo a number iſbas, and among others, a row of wooden huts that ſerve for ſhops. Oppoſite to theſe is the guard-houſe, which is alſo the chancery, or court of juſtice*; this houſe is larger than the reſt, and is always guarded by a centinel. A ſecond branch of the Bolchaïa-reka again ſeparates, by a very narrow ſtream, this group of habitations, built without order, and ſcattered here and there, from another at the north-weſt, nearer the river. The river in this part flows in the direction

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* This guard-houſe is likewiſe uſed as a priſon, and even as a ſchool for children. The maſter of the ſchool is a Japaneſe; he is ſkilled in many languages, and is paid by government for inſtructing the children of this country.

361 direction of ſouth-eaſt and north-weſt, and 563 paſſes within fifty yards of the governor's houſe. This houſe is eaſily diſtinguiſhed from the reſt; it is higher, larger, and is built like the wooden houſes of St. Peterſburg. Two hundred yards north-eaſt of this houſe, is the church; the conſtruction of which is ſimple, and like that of the village churches in Ruſſia. By the ſide of it is an erection of timber work, twenty feet high, covered only with a roof, under which three bells are ſuſpended. North-weſt of the governor's houſe, and ſeparated from it by a meadow or marſh about three hundred yards wide, is another group of dwellings, conſiſting of twenty-five or thirty iſbas, and ſome balagans. There are in general very few of theſe latter habitations at Bolcheretſk; the whole do not exceed ten; the iſbas and wooden houſes, without including the eight ſhops, the chancery, and the governor's houſe, amount to fifty or ſixty.

361 712 R 177 .71 From this minute deſcription of the fort of Bolcheretſk, it muſt appear ſtrange that it retains ſo inapplicable a name; for I can affirm, that no traces are to be found of fortifications, nor does it appear that there has ever been an intention of erecting any. The ſtate and ſituation, both of the town and its port, induce me to believe, that government have felt the innumerable dangers and obſtacles they would have to ſurmount, if they were to attempt to render it more flouriſhing, and make it the general depôt of commerce to the peninſula. Their views, as I have already obſerved, ſeem rather turned to the port of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, which for its proximity, ſafety, and eaſy acceſs, merits the preference.

563 There is a degree of civilization at Bolcheretſk, which I did not perceive at Petropavlofska. This ſenſible approach to European manners, occaſions a ſtriking differ-

ence

563 rence between the two places. I ſhall endeavour to point out and account for this as I proceed in my obſervations upon the inhabitants of theſe oſtrogs; for my principal object ſhould be, to give details of their employments, their cuſtoms, their taſtes, their diverſions, their food, their underſtandings, their character, their conſtitutions, and laſtly, the principles of government to which they are ſubjected.

The population of Bolcheretſk, including men, women and children, amounts to between two and three hundred. Among theſe inhabitants, reckoning the petty officers, there are ſixty or ſeventy Coſſacs, or ſoldiers, who are employed in all labours that relate to the ſervice of government*. Each in his turn mounts guard; they clear the ways; repair the bridges; unlade the

provifions

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* Their pay is ſo inconſiderable, that the receipt of a whole year would not ſuffice to maintain them for a ſingle month, if they had not the reſource of a petty fraudulent commerce, of which I ſhall preſently give an account.

563 proviſions ſent from Okotſk, and convey them from the mouth of the Bolchaïa-reka to Bolcheretſk. The reſt of the inhabitants are compoſed of merchants and ſailors.

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These people, Ruſſians and Coſſacs, together with a mixed breed found among them, carry on a clandeſtine commerce, ſometimes in one article, and ſometimes in another; it varies as often as they ſee any reaſon for changing it; but it is never with a view of enriching themſelves by honeſt means. Their induſtry is a continual knaviſhneſs; it is ſolely employed in cheating the poor Kamtſchadales, whoſe credulity and inſuperable propenſity to drunkenneſs, leave them entirely at the mercy of theſe dangerous plunderers. Like our mountebanks, and other knaves of this kind, they go from village to village to inveigle the too ſilly natives: they propoſe to ſell them brandy, which they artfully preſent to them

563 to taſte. It is almoſt impoſſible for a Kamt-
437 ſchadale, male or female, to refuſe this offer.
273 The firſt eſſay is followed by many others; preſently their heads become affected, they are intoxicated, and the craft of the tempters ſucceed. No ſooner are they arrived to a ſtate of inebriety, than theſe pilferers know how to obtain from them the barter of their moſt valuable effects, that is, their whole ſtock of furs, frequently the fruit of the labour of a whole ſeaſon, which was to enable them to pay their tribute to the crown, and procure perhaps ſubſiſtance for a whole family. But no conſideration can ſtop a Kamtſchadale drunkard; every thing is forgotten, every thing is ſacrificed to the gratification of his appetite, and the momentary pleaſure of ſwallowing a few glaſſes of brandy*, reduces

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* This is well known to be the ruling paſſion of all the people of the north; but I have had more than one occaſion to obſerve, that the Kamtſchadales are inferior in this reſpect

437 duces him to the utmoſt wretchedneſs.
273 Nor is it poſſible for the moſt painful expe-
563 rience to put them on their guard againſt
their own weakneſs, or the cunning perfidy
of theſe traders, who in their turn drink,

reſpect to none of them. The following ſtory, among others, was told me, that I might be able to judge of the rapacity of theſe vagabond traders, and the ſtupid prodigality of their dupes.

A Kamtſchadale had given a ſable for a glaſs of brandy. Inflamed with a deſire of drinking another, he invited the ſeller into his houſe. The merchant thanked him, but ſaid he was in a hurry. The Kamtſchadale renewed his ſolicitations, and propoſed a ſecond bargain: he prevailed.—" Come, another glaſs for this ſable, it is a finer " one than the firſt.—No; I muſt keep the reſt of my " brandy; I have promiſed to ſell it at ſuch a place, and I " muſt be gone.—Stay a moment; here are two ſables.— " 'Tis all in vain.—Well, come, I will add another.— " Agreed, drink." Meanwhile the three ſables are ſeized, and the hypocrite makes a freſh pretence to come away: his hoſt redoubles his importunities to retain him, and demands a third glaſs: further refuſals and further offers: the higher the chapman raiſes his price, the more the Kamtſchadale is prodigal of his furs. Who would have ſuppoſed that it would have ended in the ſacrifice of ſeven moſt beautiful ſables for this laſt glaſs! they were all he had.

177 291 563 The inhabitants of Bolcheretſk differ not from the Kamtſcadales in their mode of living; they are leſs ſatisfied, however, with balagans, and their houſes are a little cleaner.

Their clothing is the ſame. The outer garment, which is called *parque*, is like a waggoner's frock, and is made of the ſkins of deer, or other animals, tanned on one ſide. They wear under this long breeches of ſimilar leather, and next the ſkin a very ſhort and tight ſhirt, either of nankin or cotton ſtuff; the women's are of ſilk, which is a luxury among them. Both ſexes wear boots; in ſummer, of goats or dogs ſkins tanned; and in winter, of the ſkins of ſea wolves, or the legs of rein deer[*]. The men conſtantly wear fur caps; in the mild ſeaſon they put on longer ſhirts of nankin,

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439 [*] Articles of apparel made of the ſkins of rein deer are procured from the Koriacs.

177 or of ſkin without hair; they are made like
291 the parque, and anſwer the ſame purpoſe,
563 that is, to be worn over their other garments. Their gala dreſs, is a parque trimmed with otter ſkins and velvet, or other ſtuffs and furs equally dear. The women are clothed like the Ruſſian women, whoſe mode of dreſs is too well known to need a deſcription; I ſhall therefore only obſerve, that the exceſſive ſcarcity of every ſpecies of ſtuff at Kamtſchatka, renders the toilet of the women an object of very conſiderable expence; they ſometimes adopt the dreſs of the men.

262 The principal food of theſe people con-
462 ſiſts, as I have already obſerved, in dried
222 fiſh. The fiſh are procured by the men, while the women are employed in domeſtic occupations, or in gathering fruits and other vegetables, which, next to the dried fiſh, are the favourite proviſions of the Kamtſchadales

252 when they uſe it in their ragouts, it is pre-
439 viouſly boiled. Brandy is alſo diſtilled from
273 this ſweet herb, which, as I obſerved before,
is ſold on account of government: for this purpoſe the plant is purchaſed of the Kamtſchadales*.

162 There are three ſorts of inhabitants, the
563 natives or Kamtſchadales, the Ruſſians and
Coſſacs, and the deſcendants from intermarriages.

The indigenes, that is, thoſe whoſe blood is unmixed, are few in number; the ſmall pox has carried off three fourths of them, and the few that are left are diſperſed through the different oſtrogs of the peninſula; in Bolcheretſk it would be difficult to find more than one or two.

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* This brandy intoxicates much quicker than French brandy; whoever drinks it, is ſure to be extremely agitated during the night, and to feel the next day as melancholy and reſtleſs as if he had committed ſome crime.

The

515 157 trary extreme. Notwithſtanding this careleſſneſs, and other natural defects, it muſt be regretted that their number is not more conſiderable; as, from what I have ſeen, and what has been confirmed to me by different perſons, if we would be ſure of finding ſentiments of honour and humanity in this country, it is neceſſary to ſeek for them among the true Kamtſchadales; they have not yet bartered their rude virtues for the poliſhed vices of the Europeans ſent to civilize them.

177 563 It was at Bolcheretſk that I began to perceive the effects of their influence. I ſaw the trace of European manners, leſs in the mixture of blood, in the conformation of features, and the idiom of the inhabitants, than in their inclinations and mode of life, which did not always diſcover any very conſiderable fund of virtue. This ſtriking difference between the inhabitants and

177 the indigenes, ſprings, in my opinion, from
563 the difficulties which lie in the road to civilization, and I will aſſign my reaſons.

Bolcheretſk, not long ago, was the chief place of Kamtſchatka, particularly as the governors had thought proper to eſtabliſh their reſidence there. The chiefs and their ſuites introduced European knowledge and manners: theſe, it is known, generally become adulterated in tranſmiſſion, according to the diſtance from the ſource. Meanwhile it is to be preſumed that the Ruſſian government was careful, as far as it was poſſible, to confide its authority and the execution of its orders, only to officers of acknowledged merit, if I may judge from thoſe who are at preſent employed; and it is therefore to be ſuppoſed that theſe officers, in the places of their reſidence, were ſo many examples of the virtues, the acquirements, and all the eſtimable qualities of civilized

7:Lesseps T-3 (1787-88)1790 Kamchadal

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563 civilized nations. But unfortunately the leſſons which thy gave, were not always ſo efficacious as might have been expected; either becauſe being only ſketches, they were not ſufficiently felt, or rather, not being imbibed in all their purity, they made but momentary or perhaps vicious impreſſions on the mind.

Theſe reformers found not the ſame zeal either in the Coſſacs who compoſed the garriſon, or in the merchants and other Ruſſian emigrants who ſettled in the peninſula. The diſpoſition to licencioufneſs, and the deſire of gain, which the firſt conquerors of a country almoſt always bring with them, and the continual development of theſe qualities, by the facility with which the natives may be duped, contributed to check the progeſs of reform. The fatal infection was ſtill more diffuſely ſpread by intermarriages, while the ſeed of the ſocial

177 virtues, which had been attempted to be
563 ſown, ſcarcely found a reception.

The conſequence has been, that the natives, or true Kamtſchadales, have preſerved almoſt univerſally their ignorant ſimplicity and uncultivated manners; and that a part of the reſt of the inhabitants, Ruſſians and mixed breed, who have ſettled themſelves in the oſtrogs where the governors reſide, ſtill retain indeed a faint ſhade of European manners, but not of ſuch as are moſt pure. We have already had a proof of this in what has been ſaid of their commercial principles, and my conviction has been rendered ſtronger during my abode at Bolcheretſk, by a cloſer ſtudy of the inhabitants, who, this faint ſhade excepted, differ little from the indigenes.

157 M. Kaſloff, and thoſe who accompanied
563 him, in imitation of his example, frequently
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give

157 563 177 give entertainments or balls to the ladies of this oſtrog, who accept ſuch invitations with equal alacrity and joy. I had an opportunity of ſeeing that what I had been told was true; that theſe women, the Kamtſchadales as well as the Ruſſians, have a ſtrong propenſity to pleaſure; their eagerneſs indeed is ſo great, that they are unable to conceal it. The precoſity of the girls is aſtoniſhing, and ſeems not at all to be affected by the coldneſs of the climate.

177 563 With reſpect to the women of Bolcheretſk, who were preſent at theſe aſſemblies, and who were chiefly either of mixed blood or of Ruſſian parents, their figures in general did not appear diſagreeable, and I perceived ſome who might be conſidered as handſome: but the freſhneſs of youth is not of long duration; from child-bearing, or the painful labours to which they are ſubjected, it fades away almoſt in the flower

of

177 of their age. Their diſpoſition is extremely
563 cheerful; a little, perhaps, at the expence of decency. They endeavour to amuſe the company by every thing which their gaiety and playfulneſs can furniſh. They are fond of ſinging, and their voice is pleaſant and agreeable; it is only to be wiſhed that their muſic had leſs reſemblance to their ſoil, and approached nearer to our own. They ſpeak both the Ruſſian and Kamtſchadale languages, but they all preſerve the accent of the latter idiom. I little expected to ſee in this part of the world Poliſh dances, and ſtill leſs country dances in the Engliſh taſte; but what was my ſurpriſe to find that they had even an idea of a minuet! Whether my abode for twenty ſix months upon the ſea, had rendered me leſs faſtidious, or that the recollections they revived facinated my eyes, theſe dances appeared to be executed with tolerable preciſion, and more grace than I could have imagined.

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7:Lesseps T-3 (1787-88)1790 Kamchadal

177 The dancers of whom we ſpeak, have ſo
563 much vanity as to hold in contempt the ſongs and dances of the natives. The toilet of the women on theſe occaſions is an object of no trivial attention. They deck themſelves out in all their allurements, and whatever is moſt coſtly. Theſe ceremonious and ball dreſſes are principally of ſilks; and in the article of commerce we have already ſeen that they muſt be expen-
152 ſive. I ſhall finiſh this account with a re-
837 mark that I had occaſion to make, both in theſe aſſemblies and in thoſe of the Kamtſchadales; it is, that the majority of huſbands, Ruſſians as well as natives, are not ſuſceptible of jealouſy; they voluntarily ſhut their eyes upon the conduct of their wives, and are as docile as poſſible upon this chapter.

533 The entertainments and aſſemblies of the
535 native Kamtſchadales, at which I was alſo

1; Lesseps T-3 (1787-88)1790 Kamchadal

000 ſenſible of his paſt ſufferings, or weary of his preſent ſituation.

361/563 Our ſtay at Vercknei was ſhort; we ſet out after dinner in order to ſleep at Milkovaïa-Derevna, otherwiſe called the village of Milkoff, which was at the diſtance of fifteen werſts. In our way we paſſed a tolerably large field incloſed with palliſades, and farther on a *zaimka*, that is, a hamlet inhabited by labourers. Theſe labourers were Coſſacs, or Ruſſian ſoldiers, employed in the cultivation of land on government account. They had eighty horſes belonging to the crown, and which equally anſwer the purpoſes of induſtry, and of the ſtud eſtabliſhed in this place for the propagation of animals ſo uſeful and ſo ſcarce in the peninſula. About five hundred yards from this hamlet, which is called Iſchigatchi, upon an arm of the Kamtſchatka, is a water mill built of wood, but not very large. No uſe could at preſent

563 ſent be made of it. The ſwell of water had been ſo great as to overflow the ſluice, and to ſpread itſelf over a part of the plain where it was frozen. The ſoil appeared to be good, and the country round it to be very pleaſant. I queſtioned the Coſſacs upon the productions of their canton, where I conceived every ſpecies of corn might be cultivated with ſucceſs. They told me that their laſt harveſt had, both in quantity and quality, ſurpaſſed their hopes, and was not inferior to the fineſt harveſts in Ruſſia; two pouds of corn had produced ten.

563 Arrived at Milkoff, I was aſtoniſhed no
361 longer to ſee either Kamtſchadales or Coſ-
241 ſacs, but an intereſting colony of peaſants
R
177 whoſe features and addreſs told me they
.24 were not a mixed breed. This colony was
ſelected in 1743, partly in Ruſſia and partly
in Siberia, among the primitive inhabitants,
that is, among the huſbandmen. The view
of

563 of adminiſtration, in ſending them into this
241 country was, that they might clear the
361 land and make experiments in agriculture;
R hoping that their example and ſucceſs would
177 inſtruct and encourage the indigenes, and
.24 induce them to employ their labours in this advantageous and neceſſary art. Unfortunately their extreme indolence, which I have already deſcribed, little correſponded with the wiſe intentions of government; and ſo far are they from pretending to any rivalſhip, that they have never derived the ſmalleſt advantage from the examples that are before their eyes. This extreme ſluggiſhneſs of the natives is the more painful to an obſerver, as he cannot but admire the induſtry of theſe active emigrants, whoſe labours have been attended with ſuch beneficial effects. Their habitations, ſituated upon the Kamtſchatka, ſeem to ſhew that they live at their eaſe. Their cattle thrive well from the great care they take of them. I obſerved

563 I obſerved alſo that theſe peaſants had in
241 general very much the air of being content-
R
177 ed with their ſituation. Their labour is
.24 profitable, and not exceſſive. Every man plows and ſows his field, and having only his capitation to pay, he reaps abundantly the fruit of his exertions, which a fertile ſoil repays him with uſury. I am convinced that greater advantages might be derived from this ſource, if the cultivators were more numerous. The harveſt conſiſts chiefly of rye, and a very ſmall quantity of barley. This colony has nothing to do with the chace. Government extended its cares ſo far as to prohibit it, that their labours might be wholly devoted to agriculture, and that nothing might divert their attention. The prohibition however, I could perceive, is not very ſcrupulouſly obſerved. Their chief is a *ſtaroſte*, appointed by adminiſtration, and ſelected from the old men of the village, as the name implies. His buſi-

neſs

563 neſs is to inſpect the progreſs of agricul-
241 ture; to preſide over their ſeed time and
R their harveſt, to fix the preciſe period when
177 they are to take place; in ſhort, to ſtimu-
.24 late the negligence, or encourage the zeal of the labourers, and particularly to maintain the ſpirit of the eſtabliſhment and a good underſtanding among them.

000 Being deſirous of going to Machoure, to ſpend a day with the baron de Steinheil, I left M. Kaſloff at Milkoff, and ſet out twenty four hours before him, that I might occaſion no delay in his journey. To travel with the greater expedition I made uſe of a ſmall ſledge. The roads were no better or leſs obſtructed with ſnow than what we had before experienced, and I was therefore unable to make the ſpeed I intended, notwithſtanding my precaution. The firſt vil-
361 lage I came to was Kirgan. Before I reached it, I paſſed a number of houſes and

balagans

000 Kreſtoff, towards the village of Klutcheſskaïa, which is thirty werſts from it.

The weather, which, ſince our departure
from Apatchin, had been very fine, though
cold, changed all of a ſudden in the after-
133 noon. The ſky became clouded, and the
wind, which roſe in the weſt, brought us
a heavy ſnow. It extremely incommoded
us, and prevented me from examining as I
could have wiſhed, the volcano of Klut-
cheſkaïa, which I had ſeen at the ſame
time with thoſe of Tolbatchina. As far as
I could judge, the mountain that carries it
in its womb, is conſiderably higher than the
other two. It continually throws up flames,
which ſeem to aſcend from the midſt of
the ſnow, with which the mountain is co-
vered to its very ſummit.

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Upon the approach of night I came to
the village of Klutcheſskaïa. The inhabi-
tants

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tants are all Siberian peaſants, from the neighbourhood of the Lena, and were ſent about fifty years ago into this part of the peninſula to cultivate the land. The number of males, including men and children, ſcarcely exceed fifty. The ſmall-pox attacked only thoſe who had not before been affected with it; but it carried off more than one half of them. Theſe labourers are leſs happy than thoſe who live in the neighbourhood of Verknei-Kamtſchatka. The quantity and quality of their laſt harveſt, both rye and barley, exceeded their hopes. Theſe peaſants have many horſes belonging to them; in the mean time there are ſome which are the property of government.

This oſtrog is tolerably large, and appears the more ſo from being divided into two parts, about four hundred yards from each other. It extends principally from

563 eaſt to weſt. To the eaſtward is ſituated
361 the church, which is built of wood, and in
R 177 the Ruſſian taſte. The majority of houſes
.24 are better conſtructed, and are more clean,
than any I have yet ſeen. There are alſo ſome conſiderable magazines. The number of balagans is ſmall, and they are very unlike thoſe of the Kamtſchadales; their form is oblong, and their roof, which has the ſame declivity as ours, reſts upon poſts, which ſupport it in the air.

The Kamtſchatka paſſes at the bottom of the oſtrog; it is never entirely frozen in this part. In ſummer it frequently overflows and enters the very houſes, though they are all of them built upon an eminence.

Four werſts eaſt of the church of Klutchefſkaïa, is another *zaimka*, or little hamlet, inhabited by Coſſacs or labouring ſol-

diers,

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diers, whoſe harveſts belong to government: but I cannot get out of my way to examine it.

I made a very ſhort ſtay at Klutcheſſkaïa, my impatience to ſee Nijenei inducing me to leave it the ſame evening in order to reach Kamini, a Kamtſchadale village, twenty werſts farther. I arrived at midnight, but merely paſſed through it.

Before day I was at Kamokoff, twenty werſts from Kamini. I ſoon arrived at Tchokofskoi, or Tchoka, which is twenty-two werſts farther. From thence to Nijenei, the diſtance is the ſame, and I travelled it equally in a few hours. I had the pleaſure of entering a little before noon into this capital of Kamtſchatka, which is ſeen at a conſiderable diſtance, but its appearance is neither ſtriking nor agreeable.

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692 takes cognizance of all mercantile diſputes. The magiſtrate who preſides in the latter, is a kind of burgomaſter, ſubject to the orders of the *gorodnitch*, or governor of the town. We have already ſeen that each of theſe juriſdictions holds from the tribunal of Okotſk, to the governor of which it is accountable for all its proceedings.

563 But what moſt intereſted me at Nijenei, and what I cannot paſs over in ſilence, was my finding there nine Japaneſe, who had been brought thither in the preceding ſummer, from the Aleutienne iſlands, by a Ruſſian veſſel employed in the trade of otter ſkins.

One of the Japaneſe informed me, that he and his companions had embarked in a ſhip of their own country, with an intention of viſiting the more ſouthern Kurilles iſlands, for the purpoſe of trading with the

563 the inhabitants. They directed their courſe along the coaſt, and were at a ſmall diſtance from it, when they were overtaken by a violent gale, which carried them out to ſea, and deprived them of all knowledge where they were. According to his account, which however I did not altogether believe, they beat about in the ocean for near ſix months without ſeeing land; of courſe they muſt have had a plentiful ſtock of proviſions. At length they diſcerned the Aleutienne iſlands, and tranſported with joy, they determined to make for that coaſt, without well knowing in what part of the world it was. They accordingly caſt anchor near one of the iſlands, and a ſmall ſhallop brought them to land. At this place they found certain Ruſſians, who propoſed to them to unlade their veſſel, and remove it to a place of ſecurity; but either from ſuſpicion, or perhaps that they thought the next day would be early enough, the Japa-

563 neſe peremptorily refuſed. They had ſoon occaſion to repent of their negligence. That very night there aroſe a ſtrong gale, during which their ſhip ſtranded; and as this was not diſcovered till break of day, they had the utmoſt difficulty to ſave a ſmall part of the cargo, and ſome pieces of the veſſel, which had been almoſt entirely conſtructed of cedar. The Ruſſians, who had before treated them with civility, now exerted every effort in their power to make theſe unfortunate people forget their loſs. They at length perſuaded them to accompany them to Kamtſchatka, whither they were bound upon their return. My Japaneſe added, that they had at firſt been much more numerous, but that the fatigues of the ſea, and afterwards the rigour of the climate, had taken off many of his companions.

My informer appeared to have over his eight countrymen a very diſtinguiſhed ſuperiority;

563 riority; and he informed us that he was himſelf a merchant, and the reſt only ſailors under his command. Certain it is, that they entertain for him a ſingular veneration and friendſhip. They are penetrated with grief, and ſhew the greateſt uneaſineſs when he is indiſpoſed, or the leaſt unfavourable accident has befallen him. They regularly ſend twice a day one of their body to wait upon him. His friendſhip for them may be ſaid not to be leſs; not a day paſſes without his viſiting them, and he employs the greateſt care that they ſhould be in want of nothing. His name is Kodaïl: his figure has nothing in it ſingular, and is even agreeable; his eyes do not project like thoſe of the Chineſe; his noſe is long, and he has a beard which he frequently ſhaves. He is about five feet in ſtature, and is tolerably well made. At firſt he wore his hair in the Chineſe faſhion; that is, he had a ſingle lock depending from the middle of his head, the reſt

563 of his hair round it being cloſe ſhaved; but he has lately been perſuaded to let it grow, and to tie it after the French faſhion. He is extremely apprehenſive of cold, and the warmeſt garments given him are ſcarcely able to ſave him from it. Under theſe he conſtantly wears the dreſs of his country: this conſiſts in the firſt place of one or more long chemiſes of ſilk, like our dreſſing gowns; and over theſe he wears one of woollen, which ſeems to imply that this ſort of materials is more precious in their eſtimation than ſilk. Perhaps however the circumſtance ariſes from ſome motive of convenience, of which I am ignorant. The ſleeves of this garment are long and open; and, in ſpite of the rigour of the climate, he has conſtantly his arms and his neck uncovered. They put a handkerchief about his neck when he goes abroad, which he takes off as ſoon as he enters a houſe, being, as he ſays, unable to ſupport it.

His

563 His ſuperiority over his countrymen was calculated to make him be diſtinguiſhed; but this circumſtance has leſs weight than the vivacity of his temper and the mildneſs of his diſpoſition. He lodges and eats at the houſe of major Orleankoff. The freedom with which he enters the houſe of the governor and other perſons, would among us be thought inſolent, or at leaſt rude. He immediately fixes himſelf as much at his eaſe as poſſible, and takes the firſt chair that offers; he aſks for whatever he wants, or helps himſelf, if it be within his reach. He ſmokes almoſt inceſſantly; his pipe is ſhort, and ornamented with ſilver; he puts into it a very ſmall quantity of tobacco, which he renews every moment. To this habit he is ſo much addicted, that it was with difficulty they could perſuade him to part with his pipe even at meals. He is poſſeſſed of great penetration, and apprehends with admirable readineſs every thing

563 you are deſirous to communicate. He has much curioſity, and is an accurate obſerver. I was aſſured that he kept a minute journal of every thing he ſaw, and all that happened to him. Indeed the objects and the cuſtoms he has an opportunity to obſerve, have ſo little reſemblance to thoſe of his country, that every thing furniſhes him with a ſubject of remark. Attentive to whatever paſſes, or is ſaid in his preſence, he puts it into writing, for fear of forgetting it. His characters appeared to me conſiderably to reſemble the Chineſe, but the form of writing is different, theſe writing from right to left, and the Japaneſe from the top of the page to the bottom. He ſpeaks Ruſſian with ſufficient eaſe to make himſelf underſtood; you muſt however be uſed to his pronunciation to converſe with him, as he delivers himſelf with a volubility that frequently obliges you to miſs ſomething he ſays, or apprehend it in a wrong ſenſe. His

repartees

563 repartees are in general ſprightly and natural. He employs no concealment or reſerve, but tells with the utmoſt frankneſs what he thinks of every one. His company is agreeable, and his temper tolerably even, though with a conſiderable tendency to ſuſpicion. Does he miſs any thing? he inſtantly imagines that it has been ſtolen from him, and diſcovers anxiety and diſquietude. His ſobriety is admirable, and perfectly contraſts with the manners of this country. When he has determined to drink no ſtrong liquor, it is impoſſible to induce him ſo much as to taſte it; when he is inclined, he aſks for it of his own accord, but never drinks to exceſs. I obſerved alſo, that, after the manner of the Chineſe, in eating he made uſe of two little ſticks, which he handled with great dexterity.

I requeſted to ſee ſome of the coin of his country, and he readily gratified my curioſity.

000 rioſity. The gold coin was a thin plate of an oval form, and of about two inches in its longeſt diameter. It is marked with various Japaneſe characters, and it appeared to be of pure gold, without any alloy, ſo that it readily bent in any manner you pleaſed. Their ſilver money is ſquare, ſmaller, thinner, and lighter than that of gold; he however aſſured me that at Japan this was the ſuperior coin. The copper coin is preciſely the ſame as the *cache* of the Chineſe: it is round, and nearly of the ſize of our two *liard* pieces, with a ſquare perforation in the middle.

563 I aſked him ſome queſtions reſpecting the nature of the merchandize they had ſaved from their wreck, and I underſtood, from his anſwer, that it conſiſted chiefly in cups, plates, boxes, and other commodities of that ſort, with a very fine varniſh. I after-

563 afterwards found they had ſold a part of them at Kamtſchatka.

000 I truſt I ſhall be forgiven this digreſſion upon theſe Japaneſe; I can ſcarcely imagine that it will be thought impertinent; it will aſſiſt us in becoming acquainted with a nation that we have ſcarcely an opportunity to ſee and obſerve.

Having ſpent three days at Nijenei Kamtſchatka, I left it 12 February at one o'clock in the afternoon, to meet M. Kaſloff, whom I was ſure of finding at Yeloſki. My road for ſome time was the ſame as I had already travelled in going to Nijenei, and I arrived at Tchoka early in the evening. A ſtrong weſterly wind almoſt always prevails in this place. The ſituation of the oſtrog ſufficiently accounts for it, which is upon a river that runs between two chains of mountains

133 between the hills, rises the snowy cone of Koriatska; and the store-
361 house of the Alaska Commercial Company, painted the dull Indian
103 red that is so favourite a shade throughout Sweden, forms a
609 pleasing patch of colour in the foreground. It did not take us long
to make acquaintance with Petropaulovsky, in spite of its imposing
name. The inhabitants, we found, called it Petropaulsk, and, in
short, showed every disposition to make things easy for their
visitors. Salmon and bilberries were sent off to us, and, on our
remarking upon the presence of cows, a supply of cream and
441 butter was not long in following. Society here is limited, the
643 Europeans being but eight or ten in number. Mr. Lugobil, the
563 local head of the Alaska Commercial Company, resides here, and
712 superintends the shipping of the sealskins from Bering and Copper
R Islands; as does Captain Hunter, the cheery agent of Phillippens
and Company, another firm of fur-traders. Of stores (the American
177 term is in use here) there are but two. One of them was owned
.64 by a kindly old Swede, who also acted in the capacity of Mayor.
He had not visited his native land for thirty years, and it was
evidently a source of the keenest pleasure to him to talk of it to
one of us who knew it, and loved it almost as much as he did himself.
The town is now no longer a military post, and the barracks
and fortifications, razed to the ground by the English in 1855, have
never been rebuilt. The entire authority is vested in the Ispravnik,
whom, in spite of the exigencies of his profession, we did not find
averse to the seductions of trade. A Russo-American Jew, better
known as the King of Kamschatka, of whom the Russian Government
was extremely anxious to get rid, completed, with Dr.
Dybowski, the list of Europeans of the sterner sex. The ladies
were only four in number.

757 With Dr. Dybowski, who has acquired a European fame as a
115 naturalist, it was a pleasure to make acquaintance. His life had
R been an eventful one. Imprisoned in Siberia for some time for taking
177 part in the Polish insurrection, he had eventually been pardoned
.75 and made government doctor of Kamschatka, in which capacity he

000 among them was no trace of Cook. Presently we came upon
that imperturbable gentleman, placidly smoking a cigarette. He
explained the matter in a few words:—"Very sorry, sir, but"
(indicating the horse) "I've never been shipmates along o' one of
them things before!"

133 We crossed the river in two dug-out canoes lashed together.
136 These boats are as a rule small, and without attempt at elegance
501 in shape, such as one sees in Borneo and other parts of the Malay
Archipelago. Where the rivers are shallow, long poles are used to
propel them, and indeed the natives always seem to prefer this
implement to the paddle, wherever its use is possible. The Avatcha
River is here about eighty yards in breadth; shallow for the most
226 part, but with a centre channel about seven feet deep. It appeared
to be teeming with salmon. Stari-ostrog, situated on the right
251 bank, consists of ten huts and a large number of fish-drying sheds.
262 The long Kamschatkan winters, during which it is difficult to
361 procure food of any kind, and the consequent necessity of fish as
an article of diet for almost every living creature in the settlements
—the cows and horses even not excepted—create a need for a very
large number of these buildings; and the consequence is that, to
the eye of the new-comer, the villages appear very greatly larger
than they really are. Scanty as the population of this wild country
is, the amount of salmon annually consumed is absolutely enormous.
At this little village, for instance, we were told that, during the
season, 20,000 fish would be no uncommon catch for a single day!
Here, however, owing to there being no other settlements higher
up the river, they are permitted to stake the stream right across
from bank to bank, and the number of fish thus obtained may
probably be in excess of that in other places. The labour expended
in gathering so abundant a harvest is, of course, very considerable,
and during the season the inhabitants work day and night to get
in a sufficient supply for the winter.

● 563 We were greeted by the headman and brought to his house,
where we were regaled with milk, sour cream, coarse rye bread,

[Avacha--Analyst]

563 and sour bilberries. The houses of the better class of natives are almost all log-built. They are unpainted, and the rooms, unlike those usually seen in the northern parts of Scandinavia, are generally small. Of these there are usually two—rarely or never more than four; and in most of the huts in the larger villages the floors are boarded. As is the case among other northern nations, the houses are in many places raised above the ground, either by means of a foundation of stone, or, like a haystack, by low wooden pillars at the corners. The hut is warmed by a huge brick or stone stove, generally built between the two rooms. It is supplied with fuel only once daily, and the heat thrown out is so great, and the atmosphere, owing to the hermetically-closed windows, so stuffy, as to be well-nigh insupportable to a European. The furniture is simple. A few chairs, an abundance of cockroaches and other less mentionable insects, a rough deal table, and a tawdry gilt *eikon* of the Russian Church—a sort of fetich without which no peasant would feel comfortable—is usually a tolerably full inventory. A house of this kind is, of course, only owned by what may be termed the upper classes—those of Russian blood who have migrated from Siberia. The dwellings of the half-breed Kamschatdales, which I shall presently have occasion to describe, are very different.

000 While we were superintending the passage of our horses across the river—a somewhat lengthy operation, owing to the depth of the stream necessitating the off-loading of the baggage—we were astonished at being greeted in very fair English by a long, lean cornstalk of a lad, who expressed his pleasure at meeting travellers of that nationality in his own country. He was evidently possessed of no little love of travel himself, and told us that he had been for a year as cabin-boy on board an English steamer trading between China and Japan. His advent was opportune, as through him we were able to make arrangements for three more horses, which we were to pick up on the road the following day. For these, which were to accompany us until we reached the head waters of the Kamschatka River, a distance of about three hundred versts, we

000 load. The last string was in charge of our new man, who, overcome by the "damnable iteration" of a birch-forest, fell asleep and tumbled off his horse. In his fall, unfortunately, he dislodged some of the loose packs, which, swinging under the horse's belly, started it off at full speed. Dashing wildly forward the frightened animals caught the others in rear, upsetting Vodki and communicating the stampede to the whole line. We were at the time in thick forest, and plunging into this, our cavalcade rapidly disappeared in all directions, various ominous crackings alone revealing their line of progress. When separate individuals of a string try to pass on different sides of the same tree a startling effect is very often produced, but the old and experienced packhorse knows that better results may be obtained by the navigation of a three-foot passage between two birches. We found Ivan supporting his head in both hands, and proceeded to administer a lecture and surgical relief. Vodki, by the really masterly and exhaustive manner in which he was exhibiting the expletive richness of the Russian language, was evidently not in a condition to require attention. There is always, happily, a comical side to these affairs, which makes the traveller regard "the most disastrous chances" to his baggage with tolerable equanimity.

712 We pitched camp about twelve or fifteen miles from Narchiki,
R a little village that in bygone days was one of the palisaded *ostrogs*
177 of the Russians; and though close to a pretty and most likely-
looking stream, we were unable to catch any fish for supper, for
.71 the first and only time during our ride to the river.

224 In most bush countries it is the hunter's rule to see that the fire
438 is extinguished, or at least rendered harmless, before breaking camp.
443 In Kamschatka the greatest care is taken about this, as bush-fires
452 invariably cause the sables to desert the neighbourhood for many
563 miles around. As my readers are perhaps aware, the fur of this
animal is the most valuable export of the country, and a very large
proportion of the inhabitants are employed for the greater part of
the year in sable-hunting only. The price obtained by the hunter

224 for the skins varies very much if these be sold separately. But
438 generally the season's catch is disposed of *en masse*, and a fixed
443 price paid per head, whether good, bad, or indifferent. By far the
452 greater part of the trade lies in the hands of the individual I have
563 alluded to under his title of the King of Kamschatka. That he was by no means beloved of his subjects was abundantly evident, but his power was so great that but few were able, even if they dared, to shake off the hold he had upon them. As the owner of what was, practically, the only store in Petropaulovsky, the natives became easily indebted to him, their account for goods supplied being invariably in excess of the amount allowed for the furs brought for disposal. They are thus, we were informed, obliged to bring the catch of the following season to the same market, where, owing to the absence of competition, the prices are by no means high. If the corresponding profit upon the flour, cloth, and other goods sold be taken into consideration, it will be seen that, with a little capital and an elastic conscience, a fur-trader in Kamschatka ought not to do badly.

435 In St. Petersburg the price of a single sable-skin ranges from
563 £2 to £25. In Kamschatka the wretched peasant, living upon half-rotten fish and exposed to the rigours of a climate which, in its severity, surpasses that of almost every inhabited region of the world, receives, nominally, an average of sixteen roubles[1] per skin. In reality, as I have stated, he has to take out this value in
273 goods. He is wise if he does so, and can keep clear of the brandy,
435 which, in spite of the law which forbids its sale anywhere but
R in Petropaulovsky, has proved the ruin of so many of his country-
177 men.

.27 The price of other skins is generally settled individually. A fairly good bear's skin fetches about three or four roubles. It is only the very finest and largest that will bring as much as seven roubles. A river otter, if in good condition, is valued at the latter

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[1] The Russian paper rouble is worth nearly half-a-crown; the silver rouble about three shillings and sixpence.

[see page 74--analyst]

Of the number of sables killed annually in Kamchatka it is
224 difficult to form an estimate. The greater portion no doubt are
438 exported *viâ* Petropaulovsky, this port draining the large extent
434 of country in the region of the Kamschatka River, but a good
563 many must find their way to Bolcheresk, and some others to Tigil, a settlement in the northern part of the peninsula which has only a difficult communication with the villages on the lower part of the Kamschatka. In Petropaulovsky almost all the skins pass through the hands of the "King of Kamschatka,"[1] and the number exported by him for the season of 1882 was over two thousand. The profit on each skin probably averaged at least forty shillings, and it must be allowed that, however gloomy the outlook in Hudson's Bay and elsewhere may be, there is at least one part of the world where the fur-trade is not "played out."

We left camp again on the morning of August 30th, and after two hours' travelling came to the little village of Puschina, if village indeed it can be called. It now appeared that Vodki's plan had been to get us on to this place if possible, partly because he preferred a hut to tent life in wet weather, and partly, according to
161 Afanasi, because he was afraid of the bears. Puschina consists of
177 three huts only, with the usual proportion of fish-drying sheds,
361 and boasts of a population of fifteen souls. In 1787, according to Lesseps, it was larger than Gunal. The inhabitants appeared dirty and miserable creatures, and were more of the true Kamschatdale type than any others we had yet come across. One or two of the huts or storehouses were raised above the ground on pillars, and much resembled a Norwegian *stabur* in appearance, except that there was a complete absence of carving. It is rare to see any settlement in Kamschatka which is not placed actually on the banks of a river, but Puschina, standing two or three hundred yards away, is one of the exceptions, probably owing to the fact that the banks of the stream are here very low, and the rise of the river during the period of the melting of the snows is often very considerable.

We rested our horses and obtained a draught of fresh milk

[1] [see page 74--Analyst]

563 The head-man of the village received us on landing—a person
622 of far higher class than any we had hitherto met, and apparently of unmixed Russian blood. He was the keeper of a small store, and owned a capital little log-built house, which we found uninhabited, and apparently intended for the reception of passing travellers. This he at once placed at our disposal. Tired and wet as we were, the prospect of pitching camp in a sea of mud was not a pleasant one, and breaking through our usual rule, we accepted his offer with pleasure. Before long we were enjoying the unaccustomed luxury of a chair, and were able to skin our birds in tolerable comfort for the first time since leaving Petropaulovsky.

167 Melcova owes its origin to an experiment. With the view of
563 encouraging the cultivation of the land and of making something
241 more of the country than a mere hunting district, where the in-
361 habitants caught enough salmon during the summer to enable
R them to go after the sables in the winter, a small colony of Russian
177 peasants were settled here in 1743, who were to devote themselves
.24 entirely to agriculture. The result has been to a certain extent
successful, for the community is a tolerably flourishing one, and with its population of over two hundred, is the most important settlement in Upper Kamschatka. It may, nevertheless, be doubted if the cultivation of the land has contributed to any great extent to its success, for, from the severity and uncertainty of the climate, the prospects of the farmer are as little encouraging here as they are anywhere, and there are probably the full average of sable-hunters in Melcova. But there are small fields and gardens, and a number of cows, which combine to give the place a more home-like and settled aspect than is usual in most Kamschatkan villages.

563 A great portion of our own interest in the place centred, I must confess, in the store. Here, in a space of about twelve feet by eight, we found flour, tea, sugar, candles, axes, and a few odds and ends for sale, but there were no sables or other furs as we had hoped. We had run short both of tea and sugar, and were

563 glad to be able to get them. The so-called brick-tea is, of course, the only kind in use here, as in other parts of Siberia. It is made in cakes about ten inches by five, and three-quarters of an inch in thickness, squeezed flat by hydraulic pressure, and stamped with large Chinese characters; and were it only of better quality, it would be admirable for rough travel from its portability, and the impossibility of its becoming spoilt by wet. Brick-tea is to a Kamschatkan what coffee is to a Lapp. It is found in the very poorest and most miserable hut, and is regarded as just as much a necessary of life as tobacco. That sugar should also be highly esteemed by the natives is only what might be expected in these latitudes, but its price places it beyond the reach of most. We obtained some at the rate of eighteenpence a pound, but when Dobell visited Kamschatka in 1812 it was sold for as much as five roubles.

Melcova boasts of a resident pope and a church; the latter a log-built edifice, which was moved many years ago from Werchni Kamschatka. It is not ornamental, and is painted red on one side only. The pope received us at the porch, and showed us the interior with evident pleasure; while we, as in duty bound, did our best to assume the necessary air of charmed approval. It must be confessed that it was no easy matter, for the building was completely bare inside, and the walls were covered with English bedroom paper of the commonest kind, set off by an occasional breadth of another pattern, in which pink roses on a bright blue ground displayed themselves in the full atrocity of the early Victorian epoch. Over the altar were a few oil-paintings of saints, one or two of which were passably good.

In the same inclosure as the church, but apart from it, as is the usual custom, stands a little square belfry containing seven bells of peculiarly sweet tone. One is inscribed with the date 1761; the others are more recent. The church itself, we were told, was so old as to be beyond repair, and another one was in course of erection close by, the logs of which were of very large size. The

563 whole of the labour and material necessary for its construction was being gratuitously given by the inhabitants. I am obliged to record the fact that the building did not appear to be progressing with very great rapidity.

000 The weather of the previous day showed little signs of improvment. A biting wind with rain and sleet at intervals made us not sorry that we had settled to take a Sunday's rest here. Some fifteen miles or so to the eastward is a fine range of mountains about five thousand feet in height, which the downpour of the day before had covered to the lower slopes with fresh snow. Here and there a passing touch of sunlight fell upon the peaks and threw them out in bold relief against the leaden sky. But, late and cold as it was, the fishing had not ceased, and by the river-side they were cleaning and preparing Kisutchi—the latest salmon that visits Kamschatkan waters. Numbers of the King Salmon (*O. orientalis*) hung drying in the balagans; many of very large size.
132 The current of the river is rather swift here and at Werchni, and
133 we learnt that it does not usually freeze completely over until the end of January. It would seem as if the severity of the frost were never very great until that month. The snow invariably falls throughout the country in October, or even earlier, but it is seldom fit for sledge-travelling until November.

281 While at Melcova we tried to get some of the reindeer-skin
291 dresses of the country, as we had already felt the cold considerably in European clothes, and knew that at this season the thermometer would sink steadily from day to day. They had none for sale in the settlement, and we had to send over to Werchni Kamschatka for them. These dresses are of two kinds, the *kuklankas* and *parkas*, and are merely loose sacques composed of pieces of reindeer-skin beautifully dressed, and sewn together with thread made from the sinew of the animal, just as are the "karosses" of South Africa. They are provided with a large bearskin hood, and are put on over the head without fastening of any kind. The rest of the costume is composed of a pair of breeches of like nature, and boots almost

000 flood at one of their ancient burial-places,—a treasure that I joyfully accepted.[1]

We had taken up our quarters at the house of the head-man, and on my return thither I found that the pope had arrived to pay us a visit. His appearance was not prepossessing, and unkempt hair, a very fully-developed squint, and a total absence of conversation rendered him decidedly uninteresting as a companion. But he brought us two remarkably fine cabbages as a present, for
563 which unaccustomed luxury we felt very grateful. We learnt
793 that there were only nine priests or popes in the whole of
R Kamschatka. Like the doctors, they are paid by the Government,
177 but they also receive tithes in kind from the people. They come
.79 for the most part from Siberia, and socially rank little, if at all,
above the peasantry. This gentleman, for example, had married the sister of one of the horse-boys we had brought with us from Petropaulovsky to Sherowmy, who had been sable-hunting with Jacof Ivanovitch at the Kronotsky Lake during the preceding
000 winter. We called on her to thank her for the present, and found her a homely litttle woman with a much larger fund of conversation than her husband. On leaving the house a grey-bearded old man rushed out upon me, seized and kissed my hand, embraced me, patted me on the back, and poured out a torrent of unintelligibility which led me to the extremely English conclusion that he was drunk. I had wronged him. Afanasi was at hand, and gave me a *précis* rendering of his speech. He was merely expressing his delight at meeting with a European traveller!

The doctor had arrived to pay us another farewell visit when I again reached our house. We had many attractions for him; some of them in bottle. Poor old fellow; his sorrow at parting with us was too much for him, and when we turned round and discovered the Hennessey at the lowest ebb, it gave us almost pain to have to sign to Louis to remove it.

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[1] *Vide* "Journal Anthrop. Inst.," Vol. xvi., No. 1, p. 21.

563 Our original intention had been to leave Kluchi in the forenoon, but many things conspired to prevent it. We had bought some of the little birch-bark barrels that they make so cleverly throughout the country, and there was a great discussion as to whether we had paid for them or not,—easy to be explained by the fact that the inhabitants of the village are the descendants of Siberian Russians brought from the River Lena, and settled here about the year 1735. Wearied with the constant recurrence of these impositions, I wandered out at the back of the village to inspect the fields, which are of larger extent here than in any other place we had yet visited. Rye is cultivated, though apparently not to any very great extent, although the valley of the Kamschatka is said to be the only place where there is any chance of its ripening. It is sown in the middle of May, and the harvest, when there is one, is at the middle or end of August. Potatoes and turnips were grown in some abundance, but there was little else in the way of cultivation except a few poor attempts at garden produce. The catholic tastes of the sledge-dogs prevent the inhabitants from keeping the smaller domestic animals, but cows are numerous, and almost every house had poles placed around the front to keep off these animals, which are permitted to wander about at will.

000 The discussion on the birch-bark barrels had subsided on my return to the house, but we found that our landlord had inserted the pope's cabbages in the bill—or what would have been the bill did such things exist in the country—and more difficulties arose before we finally got afloat. At the last moment the doctor again appeared, with two boxes and a loose razor which he begged us to take to his son in Petropaulovsky. In his hand he bore the Kamschatdale skull, reverently tied up in an old handkerchief. We paid our landlord, and included the pope's cabbages; we paid twice for our birch-bark barrels; we slung up the skull at the back of our hut; and bidding *do suidania* to the united population of Kluchi, who were drawn up on the bank to watch our departure,

000 the roubles would no doubt start for Petropaulovsky, and turn them into vodky without loss of time.

144 We could make out nothing about the nationality of the people of this village. We had been told that some Aleuts from the Bering group had settled in this neighbourhood, but it seems that the Kurile islanders have also passed northward, and established themselves on the coast near Cape Lopatka. To us it appeared that they did not differ appreciably from the Kamschatdale type, but the opinion of a mere passer-by on these matters is usually valueless. Nothing certain is at present known of the origin of the Kamschatdales and Koriaks—the aboriginal tribes of the peninsula. Both appear to have become greatly reduced in numbers since the Russian conquest. As a pure race the Kamschatdales are now rare, except on the western side of the country. The Koriaks rarely or never come south of the Tigil River. They are a nomad race like the Lapps, owning reindeer and living in movable tents, and, like them, coming down to the lower ground in winter. Both these tribes belong to the "Hyperborean" unclassified group, and Mr. Keane[1] considers the Koriak as probably the parent stock of the sub-arctic races of this part of the globe. Their language as shown by the vocabulary of M. de Lesseps, although bearing but a faint resemblance to the Kamschatdale, is closely allied to that of the Tchuktchi tribe in the region of the Anadyr, and it is possible that, ethnically as well as geographically, they form a connecting link between these two latter peoples.[2]

563 I am not aware that the presence of Lamuts in Kamschatka has ever been recorded by previous writers, but while on our journey through the country we were told by Afanasi Waren

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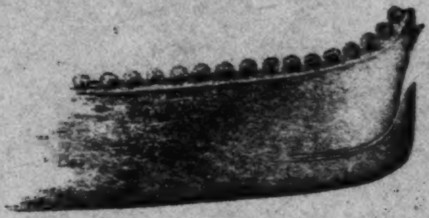
144 [1] "Asia." Stanford's Compendium of Geography and Travel.

167 [2] The accidental immigration of Japanese must be regarded as a not unimportant factor in the composition of the Kamschatdale race. Short as is the period that has elapsed since the Russian conquest, it has furnished several instances, recorded by Krasheninikov, of Japanese junks having been driven from their course and wrecked on the shores of the peninsula. This chance peopling of the country has, no doubt, been going on for centuries, and it is probable that but few of the immigrants ever regained their native land.

563 who was well acquainted with both the Koriaks and Kamschatdales, that a small number of this race lived in the mountains in the heart of the peninsula. He described them as a fjell people, great hunters of *Ovis nivicola*, and owning reindeer, which they occasionally brought in for sale to Melcova and other places on the Kamschatka River. That the Lamuts, who are of Tungus race, should have established themselves in such an isolated position is curious, but we had no reason to doubt the accuracy of Afanasi's information. De Lesseps in his "Travels in Kamschatka" gives a vocabulary of the Lamut language, but, as he mentions nothing of this people in the peninsula, it is most probable that it was obtained in passing through their country in the neighbourhood of Okhotsk and the Judoma River, on his return to St. Petersburg.



BOW OF KURILE CANOE.

000 On the 27th we bade a final adieu to Kamschatka. We had more belief in the cold southerly current than in the continuation northwards of the Kurosiwo, of which we had vainly endeavoured to take advantage in our voyage from Japan; and we accordingly set our course for that country so as to keep a few miles only to the eastward of the Kurile chain. Had we known what was before us we should probably have given the land a wider berth. We had no idea that we were destined to come in for two gales and a typhoon before we reached the welcome shelter of Yedo Bay.

We steamed on quietly enough against light to moderate southerly winds until the morning of September 29th, when we experienced a gale from the south-east, which increased in force as the day wore on. At 6 P.M. we altered course, and stood in towards Simusir Island until midnight; a high sea running and the vessel pitching heavily. The wind then slackening somewhat, and veering

27: Sauer--291-292 T-2 (1789-93) 1802 Kamchadal
116, 177, 283, 563, 824 Russia
636. 24

"Twelve versts below Virchnoi Kamtshatskoi Ostrog, is the village called Milkovoi, inhabited by farmers sent from Siberia at government expence, and possessing particular emoluments, for the purpose of growing corn and pulse to supply the country. They live uncontrolled, however, and find it easier to accumulate wealth, by acting as retailers for the merchants of Kamtshatka, and going themselves on the chase for sables, &c. than in pursuing the more toilsome labour of cultivating the earth, which they neglect. Yet they keep gardens that produce very fine cabbages, potatoes, turnips, carrots, cucumbers, &c.; they also grow buck-wheat and rye for their own use, which yield abundantly; and I am inclined to think that, had they a proper inspector to superintend their business, they might with ease grow corn enough of every kind to supply not only the peninsula, but all the neighbouring country, Ochotsk, &c. Hemp grows remarkably well, which, however, I think there is no need of cultivating; for the nettle seems equally to answer every purpose. The Kamtshadals and Russians make sewing thread of it, and fabricate from it their fishing nets, which serve them, if used with caution, and properly dried, four or five years. The process of preparing it is nearly the same as that for hemp, but I think less troublesome; the nettle grows to the height of six and seven [292] feet; the fibres are much finer; and thread of equal thickness is stronger than that made of the imported hemp."

27: Sauer--292 T-2 (1789-93) 1802 Kamchadal
116, 133, 137, 361, 563

"At Tolbalshinsk [CMC: mountain] the mountains are broken and barren; they encroach upon the valley, and considerably lessen its width. Storms are frequent between this volcano and that of Klutshefskoi, but never reach the neighbourhood of Milhovoi, and the trees are considerably less in size; but the country continues fertile as far as 30 versts north of the village Klutshefskoi, which is also a colony of Siberian peasants for the same purpose as those at Milkovoi, and who act in the same manner [CMC: see category 563, this source, p. 291]. Their proceedings are in some respects justifiable; for the magistracy at Neizshni exact the same payment from them as from the residentiary merchants. The court of justice conflicts of a burgo-master, four members, or rathmen, a secretary, writers, and watchmen; receiving a salary for the time they are in service: and frequently an expensive deputation is sent to Tigil, Bolshoiretsk, Virchni, and such places as are reported to by these pedlars; so that it is a matter of doubt with me, whether the culture of the earth would render any harvest sufficient to answer the payment of their claims. In some years they amount to 18 or 20 rubles, and in others half as much more."

27: Sauer--296-297 T-2 (1789-93) 1802 Kamchadal-1-2
116, 133, 137, 361, 563 Russia
636. 71

"The little harbour of St. Peter and St. Paul is to the north [CMC: in Avacha Bay]; its south bluff cape is extremely conspicuous; and the buildings upon the spit of land before it are clearly discernible. This harbour is in every respect convenient for giving ships all kinds of repair, as also for obtaining fire-wood and fresh water. If all its good qualities are considered, I think it may be pronounced the most convenient in the world. Six or eight ships of war might be conveniently moored in it head and stern; the only inconvenience (if it may be so called) lies in the amazing toughness of the ground; for if the anchor be heavy, and out any time, it will probably be found necessary to heave a strain on the ship to weigh it. The south of the harbour is bounded by a narrow neck of low land running out from the eastern shore in a western direction, covered with wooden houses and balagans; at the extremity of which is the entrance, 38 fathoms wide, and six and a half deep: ships may pass so close to this point of land, that a man may leap on shore. The west side is a projecting narrow mountain of moderate height trending to the south, terminating in a bluff head, upon which it a battery of three guns, and a flag. [297] From this extremity a shoal extends south about 100 fathoms. The north, which is the head of the harbour, is bounded by a valley, in which are the government magazines, barracks, and the dwelling houses of the commander and chief inhabitants. To the east, it is bounded by lofty mountains covered with wood to the very summit; namely birch, mountain-ash, hawthorn, dwarf-cedar, rose-bushes, &c. On this side

27: Sauer--296-297 T-2 (1789-93) 1802 Kamchadal-2
116, 133, 137, 361, 563 Russia
636, 71

are several springs of very pellucid water rushing down the mountains into the harbour, and these are very convenient watering places.

The bay is bounded to the north-west by the extensive plains of Avatsha, where two rivers discharge themselves into it; namely, the Avatsha and Paratounca. At the estuary of the former, the Kamtshadals, who formerly resided in the harbour, have their present habitations; while the troops of the garrison possess their late dwellings."

27: Sauer--306-307 T-2 (1789-93) 1802 Kamchadal-1-2
116, 161, 563, 651 Russia
636.65

"The number of inhabitants may be stated as follows, men, women and children:

At the town (Neizshnoi) - -	548
Ostrog Tigil - -	338
Virchnoi - -	226
Bolshoiretsk - -	235
And at the harbour of St. Peter and St. Paul - -	85
Colonists - - -	255
Russians - - -	1687
Kamtshadals - - -	1053
Total - - -	2740

Of the natives 351 males only pay tribute,* or, rather, are living on the list of those who are tributary, according to the revision [307] made during the government of Mr. Reinikin, who succeeded Major Behm. The revisor (in 1784), by some unaccountable mistake, has frequently noted the name of one and the same person as the inhabitant of two or three villages; and from each village the tribute is exacted for this man. They have made repeated remonstrances, but in vain: this imposition, however, is the least

27: Sauer--306-307 T-2 (1789-93) 1802 Kamchadal-2
116, 161, 563, 651 Russia
636, 65

of their sufferings. They are compelled to pass the greater part of their time in procuring necessaries for their visitors. The governor makes his annual circuit round the peninsula, and receives a present from every individual; the captain of the district goes his rounds twice; different deputations from the courts of justice, soldiers on furlough, couriers, &c. all travel at the expence of the poor native, who is compelled to keep an extraordinary number of dogs for their conveyance. Government horses are quartered at each village, and the inhabitants must provide a stock of hay for them. Thus the Kamtshadal scarcely finds time to collect a supply of food in the fishing season for his own family."

27: Sauer--310 T-2 (1789-93) 1802 Kamchadal
116, 177, 241, 563 Russia
636. 24

"About the latter end of the year 1779, or the beginning of 1780, Major Behm returned to St. Petersburg. Major Reinikin succeeded him in the command, and wished to introduce among the natives the culture of the earth, but could not succeed; he brought potatoe seeds with him; first grew them in his own garden; and from thence they were abundantly distributed all over the peninsula, with every species of garden vegetables, which are cultivated with great success by the Russian inhabitants."

27: Sauer--310-312 T-2 (1789-93) 1802 Kamchadal-1-3
116, 563, 635, 651 Russia
636.63

"In the year 1783 a mandate from her Imperial Majesty proclaimed Neizshni Kamtshatka a city; ordained it the seat of government of the country under the chancery of Ochotsk offered privileges to such merchants as chose to become burghers; and instituted courts of justice, establishments better calculated to govern 300,000 men than 1500, which is about the number of male inhabitants. The governor was denominated Gorodnitshik (mayor); and his establishment consists of a secretary and writers; a Kaznatshestva (exchequer) for the receipt of the revenue, and payment of officers; a Zemskoi Sud (court of the interior), of which the Ispravnik, or captain of the district, is president, and in this court one of the natives is a member to represent the whole body; with a magistracy to regulate mercantile concerns, as already mentioned. [311]

The salaries allowed by government to the different officers are as follow:

The Gorodnitshik	- -	600 rubles.
His Secretary	- -	300
The Kaznatshae	- -	400
Ispravnik	- -	400

other officers less in proportion; some of the writers having only 24 rubles per annum.

27: Sauer--310-312 T-2 (1789-93) 1802 Kamchadal-2
116, 563, 635, 651 Russia
636.63

Prices of Articles 1793	Kazan.	Kamtshatka.
Linen for shirts per arsheen*	18 cop.*	120 cop.
Boots per pair	3 rub.	12 to 18 rub.
Thread stockings do.	125 cop.	4 to 5 rub.
Soap per lb.	6 cop.	60 to 100 cop.
Candles do.	8 cop.	80 to 100 cop.
Tea do.	2 rub.	12 rub.
Sugar	50 cop.	3 rub.
Leaf tobacco per lib.	5 cop.	3 rub.
Rye flour, per pood*	50	500 cop.
Wheat do.	60	800 cop.
Rice per lib.	10	100 cop.

*A pood is 40 lb. Russ, or 36 lb. English. 100 copeaks make a ruble; a copeak may be reckoned little more than a farthing sterling. 9 arsheens make 7 yards.

27: Sauer--310-312 T-2 (1789-93) 1802 Kamchadal-3
116, 563, 635, 651 Russia
636.63

From this statement of prices, the impossibility of an officer living upon his salary will plainly appear; he is therefore compelled to find out some method of increasing his income, at the expence of the poor natives.

One of the captains of the district, who came here with his wife and family, finding himself extremely distressed, appropriated [312] the tribute of one year to his own use, and wrote a letter to the Empress; stating, that the severity of the climate, the prices of every article of life, and the wants of his family, had compelled him to make use of the tribute, consisting of such a number of sables and fox skins for their backs and bellies, which he rather chose to do than rob the poor natives (the only alternative). He requested her pardon, and an appointment where he could live upon his salary; and the industry of his family (of no benefit in Kamtshatka) might help to repay the amount of the articles that he had appropriated to his own use. The Empress ordered the governor to give him such an appointment, and pardoned him on account of the good reasons that he assigned; but this pardon was not to be regarded as a precedent; for such mercy was not to be extended to any future person who should dare to act in the same manner.

The magistracy receives its income from the burghers and meshanin. The latter are privileged pedlers (and the colonists are of the number); the former are divided into three classes, according to the extent of the capital that they give in, upon which they pay one per cent."

28: Sarytschew--65-66 T-1 (1789-90) 1806 Kamchadal
116, 361, 563

"The fortress of Bolcherezsk, situated on the banks of the Bolschaja, has a church and thirty habitations. Its inhabitants consist principally of Kosaks, with a few merchants and citizens. Before the advancement of the fortress Nishne-Kamtschatzsk to the rank of a town, the first magistrate of Kamtschatka made this his place of residence; but now a serjeant is commander of the fortress. The Kosaks here are much more opulent than those of Petropaulowsk, almost all of them having their cattle and a good domestic economy. Their gardens are stocked with excellent turnips and potatoes. For the introduction of the latter vegetable they are indebted to counsellor Reineke, the former commander of Kamtschatka.

All the inhabitants here are usually dressed like the Kamt-[66]schadales, in narkas and kamlegas. The former are the skins of reindeer, cut into shirts; and the latter are skins of any kind, stripped of their hair, and made quite pliant. On holidays, the women wear a sort of silk gown of an old Russian shape, which was fashionable 60 years ago. They have also a speckled silk handkerchief about their heads.

In the first days of the new year, the inhabitants assembled every evening for the purpose of dancing. The women understood Russian dances very well, and what was still more surprising, could dance in the Polish fashion, and very passably even à la Grecque. The music consisted of three fiddles, played by Kosaks."

000 ter which, on a beautiful frosty moon-light morning, I resumed the journey over a picturesque and mountainous country, well wooded and watered. Late at night we reached a small place called Apachinsk, forty-five miles. Ere we arrived we had to cross the river called Bolshaya in a canoe, the river not being frozen, a circumstance at this time of the year very
361 rarely known. Thirty-miles farther we reached the
161 ancient capital of Kamtchatka, Bolcheretzk, now a small village containing fourteen dwellings, one hundred and sixteen inhabitants, and about thirty
000 balagans, i. e. sheds for drying fish. The path to it was over a flat level along the river. I was myself the driver towards the abode of my now father-in-law, whose homely manners, numerous, healthy, smiling children, and hearty breakfast, made ample amends for the fatigues of the last two days.

Bolcheretzk stands on the river of its own name, about fifteen miles from the sea of Okotsk, and has little to boast of at present but the affectionate remembrance the inhabitants bear to the memory of Major Behm, so highly spoken of by Captain King. I heard, also, strange stories of the celebrated Benjofsky, who made his escape hence to Canton, having previously murdered some people, and fomented an insurrection. I heard nothing in his favour, although an old lady, afterwards my aunt,
563 was a companion of his. I found Bolcheretzk to be inhabited by a civil people, all Russians: but
000 were it otherwise it might be expected I should

000 those I had, and then proceeded upon my journey,
reaching by midnight Kickchick, twenty miles,
a place of equal wretchedness with the last, and
like it containing but fourteen or fifteen inhabitants,
most of whom are disabled from work by disease.
With the same dogs I reached Kolofsky ostrog
thirty miles along the sea coast, upon which a
tremendous surf was roaring with a strong northwest
wind. There are in the neighbourhood several
fine lakes which never freeze, and produce
trout and salmon peal of a fine flavour during the
whole of the winter. Deer, mountain sheep, and
game of every description that is found in the Peninsula
abound in the mountains and forests, and
fine meadow lands every where skirt the coast.

133 I remained to take tea with the old Toion, whom
563 I found to be a fiddler and a scholar, and departed
361 for Vorofskoy ostrog, forty miles. The mountains
now approached nearer to the sea-coast, and present
some beautiful scenery. I put up at the abode of
a wealthy Russian farmer, and felt highly gratified
161 in observing a small but fat herd of cattle. This is
361 considered a rich spot, yet it contains only nine
133 dwellings with about forty inhabitants, not enough
to keep up the chase. The place is prettily situated
on the Vorofskaya river, about four miles
from the sea. There is a snug harbour at the
mouth of the river, where the transports from
Okotsk formerly visited, and the river is navigable
to the village which retains the vestiges of a small
fortress. The meadow lands about it are at once

133 Tygil stands on the river of its own name, at
161 thirty miles from the sea. The country round it has
361 somewhat of the picturesque during the summer,
but its situation in winter is exposed and dreary. A
range of mountains from the NE to the SE defend
it in some degree from the coldest winds, yet it is
on the whole but a poor place. There are present
twenty-seven dwellings and two hundred and
361 fifty inhabitants, and it is denominated a fortress;
181 formerly it may actually have been one, but at
R present will be best appreciated as to its strength
177 by a reference to George's Travels in Siberia, who,
. 71 speaking of fortresses or ostrogs, the latter word
comprehending Siberian fortresses, says, "It would
be dangerous to attempt storming them, for whoever
wanted to mount the greatest and only bulwark,
a wooden paling, would most probably come
to the ground with the whole structure about him."
Such I am certain is the present state of Tygil,
and which, with its half dozen Cossacks, can only
be held *in terrorem* over the neighbouring Koriaks:
the Kamtchatdales are not a people numerically or
physically strong enough to create a disturbance.

361 The inhabitants of Tygil are all Russians, they
563 have of late got a church and the walls of an hospital
erected; when they are to be covered in I
know not, though shortly I hope, for they are
much wanted. The ravages of a certain disease
at this place are indeed dreadful, and I should
think ought to call forth the attention of the govern-

361 ment so far as to induce them to export doctors to,
563 and import priests from Kamtchatka. I mean no disrespect to those reverend gentlemen, but just to hint, as my opinion, that instead of the soul only, it would be better to take care of the soul and body at the same time. The average number of people annually admitted to the hospital books is three hundred and fifty, nearly twice its whole population, who are chiefly employed in fishing and trading with the neighbouring Koriaks or Kamtchatdales. The place also serves to keep up the winter communication with Okotsk. For the Koriaks will not furnish rein-deer or dogs to carry the post, unless they are remunerated by a present of tobacco, spirits, &c.

000 From what I have seen of the Koriaks, both in Tygil and in their encampments to the southward, I have no doubt of their being of the same tribe as the Tchùktchi; they have the same features, manners, and customs, and the same language—the same love of independence, and are, in truth, less scrupulous of giving offence to the Russians than their northern neighbours, for they frequently break out in hostility with the inhabitants of Tygil, unless a supply of spirits and tobacco is sent to them, for which, however, they barter rein-deer and furs.

132 The climate of Tygil is cold; already had the
563 thermometer passed 28° of Reaumur. The Cossacks however, contrive to raise a few vegetables, as po-

563 tatoes, cabbages, turnips and radishes; but the two
137 former never arrive at complete maturity, the one
being waxy, and the other without a head. The
famous antiscorbutic cheremsha, or wild garlick,
abounds, as does a small but delicious root, somewhat
resembling a sweet potatoe, called, in the language
of the country, kimtchiga. There is also an
abundance of wild berries in the neighbourhood of
Tygil, yet their chief support is fish and rein-deer,
of both which I partook at the hospitable table of
000 the commander of the fortress. At the expiration
of four days I departed, having remained so long
to recover my feet, which had been severely frost-bitten
from wet.

I was accompanied by the commander of the
transport lying in the Haven: he was what is
termed a good, though a droll, fellow; and I was
133 gratified with his society. Our route lay at first
361 up the Tygil, which from its source to near the
town runs through an interesting country. At
midnight we reached Sedanka, a small village,
containing six dwellings. From thence to Bolcheretzk
is called the Tygil coast, which, generally
speaking, is low and flat, the sea-coast being from
thirty to forty miles from the mountains. The
villages through which I had come were all of
them upon the banks of some small streams, which,
in most cases, rise in the mountains; but sometimes
they emanate from the lakes, which are
numerous. The rivers I do not apprehend to be

133 more than the melting of snow and rain which descend
231 from the eternally snow-clad peaks. The
quantity of horned cattle upon the coast is so small
as not to merit notice, although the pastures are
extensive and fertile enough to feed millions.

563 At Sedanka we procured dogs to enable us to
cross the mountains to the next station, a distance
of one hundred miles. Early in the morning we
passed the camp of the Koriaks, and continued our
route along the Sedanka river for forty miles, when
we reached the Rasoshna. We encamped for the
night in the snow, the dogs round us, and then
the fire; we passed on the whole, a pleasant night,
although my feet were still in a bad state, owing
probably to their late want of pedestrian exercise.
133 The following day we crossed numerous elevated
137 lakes, and then over mountains and a well wooded
country. On our way we fell in with a caravan of
eleven nartes from the town of Cliutchi bound to
133 Tygil. We continued until we reached an elevated
132 desert of ten miles long, which we crossed in a continual
storm of wind and snow, called in this country
purga; we halted in a miserable place, having
come about thirty miles. I can hardly imagine
how the poor dogs found their way, or how they
managed to drag us along. There are times when
these *purgas* are so tremendous that mountains of
snow are levelled, immense valleys filled, whirlpools
formed of snow, not only stopping the further progress
of the traveller, but absolutely burying him

000 pelled to return. We soon regained the ostrog
we had left, and there we passed the night, witnessing
such a scene of riot and drunkenness as is
quite beyond my pen to describe. My companion
had parted with a few bottles of spirits unadulterated,
which, when they had operated, induced him
again to launch out adulterated spirits, receiving, of
course, a sable for each bottle. I was thoroughly
convinced from this circumstance that Kamtchatka
should not be supplied with spirits.

361 I was mortified at not visiting the town of
161 Nishney Kamtchatsk, and its port, but may say
137 that the former contains twenty-two dwellings,
and one hundred and fifty inhabitants, and the latter
an accessible port, but much feared for want of
being frequented. Formerly, when the seat of government
was held there, vessels annually went to
St. Peter and St. Paul's for provisions, but this is
now no longer the case. Timber abounds in such
quantities and of such a quality as should induce
the government to fell and to export it to the present
capital, where it is much wanted. I reached
Cliuchie at midnight, having come over a few lakes
133 and a half frozen river. Cliuchie is a Russian peasants'
361 village, containing one hundred and eighty
563 inhabitants. It is pleasantly situated upon the
right bank of the Kamtchatka, at the foot of the
eastern termination of the lofty peak which is not
far from it. This peak is said to be the most elevated
in the peninsula, being about fifteen thousand

133 feet above the level of the sea. It has frequently
emitted flames, lava, and dust, but its summit was
not visible during my stay in this respectable village
of Christians. After the grand eruption which
I had witnessed in the Island of St. Vincent's, in
1812, I could feel no regret at not being able to
see one in Kamtchatka. It is true that little or no
mischief arises from the volcanoes of this Peninsula,
and they may therefore be more innocently
and placidly seen and contemplated.

651 The amount of tribute paid by the peasants is
563 about ten shillings, formerly it was twenty; being
R reduced one half at the time the Kamtchatdale yasack
177 was reduced from two to one sable. The
.65 country is in every respect most luxuriant and beautiful,
and were there a sufficiency of inhabitants,
as well as of horned cattle, it would no doubt make
one of the most desirable abodes in the world.
563 Wood of the first growth, fish in a most abundant
361 quantity, game of the finest flavour, and of various
species, pastures inconsumable; a chase which
yields foxes, sables, river-otters, bears, wolves, &c.
of the finest specimens, are what Cliuchie has to
boast. Vegetables are raised with greater facility
than in any other part of the peninsula. Wild
berries are very abundant, and some little rye flour
is produced, though not of so ripe a quality as to
be of much use; such are, in short, the claims of
Cliuchie, that it should undoubtedly be made the
capital of the peninsula, and I am only astonished

563 it is not so, considering how well its central situation
361 is adapted for that purpose. A neat church
has lately been erected at the expense of the inhabitants,
who are in general disliked by the chiefs
and officers, owing to their resisting the payment
of individual yasack, or presents. This is surely
an enhancement of their character.

563 I quitted the village of Cliuchie perfectly satisfied
with the character and conduct of its inhabitants.
They preserve a great tenaciousness of their
rights, and detestation of the injustice shown to
their neighbours, the aborigines. To prove this
assertion, I need but mention that with these
Cliuchie peasants, I was obliged to pay in money
for the hire of the dogs which drew me; a circumstance
which had happened to me no where
else, and therefore carries the most undoubted
proof of exactions, extortions, and cruelty exercised
upon the most innocent and inoffensive people
132 in the world. My route lay from Cliuchie at
first over some small lakes, and then along the
banks of the Kamtchatka, which at this period of
the year, 14th December, O. S. is but half frozen.
361 At twenty-five miles I reached the ostrog called
161 Krestova, having three yourtes and twenty-four inhabitants,
164 nearly all of whom are confined by disease.
I continued on with the same dogs to Oushkielova,
thirty miles farther, having four habitations
and twenty individuals, most of whom also
are debilitated: indeed it is extraordinary what

137 enough to bear the nartes. I crossed two other
small rivers by bridges for that reason. The scenery was very beautiful, a lofty range of mountains lay to the east with a good deal of fine timber, while the flat country is one fine uninterrupted meadow,
361 without a single cow to feed upon it. Stchappinat
161 has seven dwellings and fifty-two inhabitants, and,
136 it is said, the finest fish in the peninsula, though but
226 few are actually procured from it: they are considered so delicious that the inhabitants send them to the seat of government as presents to the chief and officers. The causes of their comparative scarcity are probably the depth and rapidity of the river, as well as the smallness of the nets; for unless the river be actually swarming with fish, it is seldom that the inhabitants can provide themselves with a sufficient supply.

137 To Massura are forty miles of a well wooded
361 country, and fine meadows upon the banks of the
161 river. I almost flew the distance, being scarcely
234 six hours in performing it. There are ten dwellings and sixty people, civil and hospitable to a proverb; a considerable quantity of cattle are in the neighbourhood, feeding on a rich pasture which runs to Kirgannick twenty-five miles further, where I got sight of the magnificent mountain scenery over hanging Verchney Kamtchatsk. One Sopka
361 (Peak) is especially remarkable. Milkova, a
563 Russian peasant village, ten miles distant contains fifteen houses and one hundred and twenty inhabit-

361 ants received me next, a neat place abounding in
563 cattle, if thirty or forty of them may constitute an
abundance; there are however no animals of the
chase. A handsome church has of late been erected
under the auspices of Captain Golenistcheff, the
second in command of the peninsula, whom I
found expecting my arrival. I continued for Verchney
Kamtchatsk, also a peasants' village, but was
obliged to return owing to the inefficiency of the
361 dogs, although distant only eight miles; I at length
563 reached it much fatigued, having come through
R a pretty place called Schegatchik, where some Cossacks
177 are stationed to take care of a few heads of
.23 horned cattle, and four or five horses, which belong
to the government. The situation is beautiful, on
a branch of the Kamtchatka, which makes a semicircular
indentation into the land, just opposite to
Verchney Kamtchatsk, forming an island opposite
to the junction of the Gatchick and Milkova.

000 I procured fresh dogs at Verchney, a place on the decline, and proceeded towards Sherom twenty miles, situated in one of the most romantic and enchanting valleys in the peninsula. I there met with the Ispravnick and eighteen nartes engaged for the collection of the yasacks, public and private, as well as for trade. I felt gratified to meet them, as I received good news of my affairs at the seat of government; and learnt also that there was a road before me to cross the desert, lying towards Malka. The Ispravnick had been detained four-

177 pearance there is no difference whatever. They
181 seem a race disburthened of all care and consideration
for the future, and entirely resigned to any
fate which may await them, whether it be oppression
or starvation.

177 In my opinion, and I speak it most sincerely, the
771 aborigines have not derived much benefit from the
793 conquest of their country by the Russians, as even
their conversion to Christianity has done little other
good, than entitled them to the name of Christians.
The great number of priests and deacons (twenty-six
in number) would, I presume, suggest an expectation
of more learning and piety in this part of the
world than in other semi-barbarous places; but
really I have never seen any good effects from the labours
of these reverend gentlemen. Certainly there
is no population corresponding to the number of
161 ecclesiastics, as will appear on considering that the
231 whole Kamtchatdale population does not exceed,
563 male and female, two thousand seven hundred and
sixty, while their dogs amount to two thousand
two hundred and eight. The number of Russians
is one thousand two hundred and sixty. The inhabitants
north of Tygil and Nishney Kamtchatks,
are four hundred and ninety-eight, while in the
Koriak villages there are one hundred souls;
making a population of four thousand five hundred
and seventy-four, men, women, and children, Russians,
162 Kamtchatdales and Koriaks. Whether the
original population has not decreased in a surpris-

162 ing degree is a question I shall not answer, farther
than by reminding my readers that at the discovery
of Kamtchatka, we are told in the Russian history,
that no less than one hundred and sixteen villages
164 were on the banks of the river Kamtchatka. The
162 small-pox, and its rival distemper, with other diseases,
and above all the spirit of persecution which
has been unremittingly practised towards these
poor people, have been the several causes of the
depopulation. Of late, however, I can with certainty
say the population has not decreased; this
may be owing to the benefits arising from vaccination,
as well as somewhat better medical attendants.
162 But although population has of late kept its
563 maximum, it may be a question whether the aborigines
have not decreased in the same ratio that the
Russians and convicts have increased. At present
there are several Yakut as well as Russian exiles,
in the peninsula, neither of whom can be of much
benefit; but both assisting to persecute and plunder
the Kamtchatdales.

175 Of the history and origin of the Kamtchatdales little
positive has ever been known; and that only for
the last one hundred and thirty years. Kamtchatka
is supposed to have been visited by some Russians
in 1649, when one of the traveller Deshneff's vessels,
was wrecked on its coast. Those Russians
lived with them in peace for a considerable period
of time; but quarrelling among themselves were
murdered. Nothing more is known of the place

171 with a dialect of the same language, originating
181 from the Mongolian, and the only difference
177 between them and the Kamtchatdales is, that they
are a more manly, and consequently a more independent
race; for of all the people at present
157 existing, I believe the natives of this peninsula to
181 be the most affable and hospitable; but, at the
same time, the most cowardly and insensible. I
never saw in any part of the world a people more
abused, under the sanction of a proverb, now become
almost a principle, "God is high, and the
Emperor far off."

000 Their modes of fishing and hunting, and such
productions of the country as I have not noticed
may be found in Cook's and other travels. I will
therefore proceed to compare the present happiness
of the people of this Peninsula, with that which
231 they formerly enjoyed. In the first place, as to
563 their possessions in horses or horned cattle.—It
R appears by the last census, that there are but one
177 hundred and nine of the former, and nine hundred
.23 and sixty-eight of the latter in the whole Peninsula,
two-thirds of which are in the hands of the
Russians; and but three hundred and ninety-three
head of cattle in the possession of three thousand
four hundred Kamtchatdales and Koriaks. It
is to be regretted that the flattering prospects held
out by Captain King, have not been realized. The
introduction of horses and horned cattle would
much tend to ameliorate the condition of the peo-

273 Another great cause of this ravage in population
435 has arisen from the introduction of spirits: a Kamtchatdale
563 will sell his last sable or fox for a glass
733 of it, though he is not physically strong enough to drink any thing of the kind. When it is considered that sixteen thousand bottles of this trash are consumed in the short period of three or four months by six or seven hundred people, we may well feel pity and surprise—pity for the poor women and children, and surprise at the means of getting either the money or sables. Such a quantity of spirit ought to sell for fifty thousand roubles, which is one hundred per cent. upon the price at Okotsk, but it is in reality sold for twice that sum. When it is recollected that officers, soldiers, sailors, merchants, and priests travel round the Peninsula for the purposes of trade, it will be less wonderful when I assert that each bottle of spirits sold to the Kamtchatdales, produces the value of ten and twelve shillings. Now allowing half the quantity imported (eight thousand bottles) to be consumed by the aborigines, this would produce from eighty to one hundred thousand roubles, while the cost is, in Okotsk, only twenty-five thousand. I have seen a bottle of spirits sold for a sable, and afterwards, when the party was drunk, a bottle of adulterated liquor has fetched the same price: in short, I have seen three and even four sables given for two bottles of spirits.

Allowing seven hundred and fifty families of the

273 generation that the stock itself can be preserved,
435 which will not long be possible, if spirit continue
563 to be transported and retailed out as it now is.—
R While making these reflections in England, I am
177 aware that the Russian Government have desisted
.27 from this trade, but this is only the worse for the Kamtchatdales, inasmuch as the pedlers take an extra quantity, and demand a most exorbitant price for a spirit infinitely inferior.

651 The abuses arising from the collection of the
661 yasack are most cruel. The yasack itself is inconsiderable,
R but from the arbitrary manner in which
177 it is collected, it is rendered odious and oppressive.
.65 The tribute is levied in kind at any low or capricious valuation, and it has not unfrequently happened that the Toion of a village, who does not properly compliment the Chief or other officer, upon the annual visit, has so small a price put upon his furs, in payment of their tribute, that they sustain a loss of two, three, and even four hundred per cent. I have seen sables valued at half-a-crown for which the merchants present would have given twelve shillings. Independent of the yasack, each Kamtchatdale has to pay seventy copecs, or seven pence, as a sort of capitation or poll-tax, upon failure of which the Ispravnick may have recourse to the most arbitrary and unjust measures. Any property may be seized and sold on the moment, such as axes, knives, nets, guns, kettles, or the clothing of the family; and it has often happened that a

651 poor family has been ruined through the cruel and
661 oppressive conduct of these tax-gatherers, not from
R a deficiency of the *legal* dues, but of illegal dues.
177 The mode of taxation in each ostrog is also highly
.65 objectionable, and sometimes rendered cruel. They are not taxed as a people but as a place, and it not unfrequently happens that the village which formerly contained forty or fifty able people, and was taxed as such, does not the following year contain more than twenty or twenty-five, in consequence of illness or removals. There is, however, no remedy, the yasack of the whole must be paid by the few. It is also not a little singular that each ostrog is taxed in money, and yet money cannot be received; the duplicity of this act is too apparent to be mentioned, yet it would be seen that the government must be unacquainted with a fact of the kind, for the difference in the amount of the tribute would not equal one hundred pounds. Instead of the sum of money at which each village is rated, the inhabitants are obliged to pay furs at one fourth the value. Sables of the finest quality, and worth forty shillings a pair, are never averaged at more than ten. It would be more honest to increase the nominal tribute of money, or put a specific tax on furs, which would be felt less severely, because an appearance of candour would accompany it.

651 The next galling tax is that levied for the tax-
661
563 gatherer himself, and this is a greater grievance
R than that levied on behalf of the Emperor, and
177 under more humiliating circumstances. Each os-
.66

651 trog, and each Toion or Chief of it, is also com-
661 pelled to pay the same tribute to his actual Chief
563 as to the Emperor himself; so that the yasack is
R *de facto* paid at least five times over.

177 Nor is the impolitic system of collecting the tri-
.66 bute more injurious than that arising from forced or gratuitous services, such as the forwarding of the post, the transport of flour and salt, and the issuing of padvodies, or forced levies of horses or dogs, to officers and favourites. This is indeed an intolerable abuse, and calls loudly for redress. There can be no doubt but that if the proprietors of dogs were rewarded at a proper time and in a proper manner, they would as much court the employment as they now abhor it. According to the present plan the natives lose their time, their dogs, their health, and their provisions. Any favourite or officer who may wish to trade is furnished with one of these free billets, which authorizes him, upon the plea of public duty, to call out men and dogs. While the manner of the officer or favourite seems to intimate, that he confers an obligation upon the Chief of the village by his acceptance of a couple of sables as a present. Nor is this all: not content with the present, the party travelling has the privilege of trading, and buying just as many more sables as the poor aboriginal may have caught, and which are invariably sold for just such a consideration as the officer may incline to give.

If a governor or officer be compelled to travel upon public service, and receive from the Crown a

651 sum of money to pay travelling expenses, it seems
661 very strange that such money is not paid to these
563 poor people. As little can I understand why a post
R should travel gratis: surely the poorest and most
177 distant part of the Russian empire, should not be
.66 oppressed in such a manner. It is true, the sum paid by the government to officers when travelling is small, as well as that paid to the postillion when in charge of the post; but small as it is in itself, it would be acceptable to those to whom it would appear much. As to officers' travelling, for which there is no public necessity, they can at best but reap the advantages belonging to the fair trader, who is not inconsiderably taxed. I have heard an officer of high rank assert, that every voyage from Kamtchatka to Okotsk and back again, was worth ten thousand roubles, or five hundred pounds; and I believe he spoke the truth.

661 With respect to the pedlers, here denominated
183 merchants, they in truth ought to be taxed severely,
435 441 as well in regard to the goods they bring as
563 the price at which they are sold, the articles being such as are of light burthen, or will return the greatest profit. The ignorance of the aborigines is such, and their thoughtlessness of the future so great, that they prefer present luxuries to future
661 necessities. The quantity of articles hawked about
437 by the merchants consists of tobacco, spirits, silks,
439 tea, sugar, nankeen, and cotton handkerchiefs.
441 Every Kamtchatdale keeps open house, and upon
563 the arrival of a Russian his door is held open, the

661 owner standing by it uncovered, and awaiting the
437 entry of his noble guest, who, making an obeisance
439 to the kasaika or landlady, passes on to the most
441 comfortable part of the dwelling, and divesting
563 himself of the unwieldy clothing so necessary in
this part of the world, calls for dinner or supper as the time may be, orders food for his dogs, eats and drinks well, has a bed prepared for him, and takes breakfast, consisting of fine game, fish, and the like. The intermediate time is employed in extorting three or four hundred per cent. profit for his goods, and the only remuneration to his host is a glass of spirits or a leaf of tobacco, in some cases not even a "thank ye," although stress of weather has, unfortunately for them, detained him to partake of their hospitality for a week or more.

Were the merchants compelled to take more woollens and linens, some flour or oatmeal, with a sufficient quantity of axes, knives, kettles, twine, nets, and other implements of great necessity, there would be less objection to their proceeding round the Peninsula, and less inducement for officers to do so. Tobacco, it is true, is an article of great demand as well as of great necessity; tea and sugar are also in considerable demand, though, probably, too much money is lavished upon both these articles, by the Kamtchatdales; as also upon silks, nankeens, and fine cottons. A great benefit would arise from the establishment of a general fair in Kamtchatka, to he held at St. Peter and St. Paul's, as well as from two or three provincial fairs to be held upon a certain day at certain places.

563 cial fairs to be held upon a certain day at certain
793 places. Among the people who also travel round
759 the peninsula of Kamtchatka are doctors and par-
661 sons. They are both extremely troublesome, for
while the one affects to prepare the soul, and the other the body, both I believe are more concerned in fleecing the thoughtless aboriginal, and in depriving him of the means of support.

177 The quantity of convicts sent amongst a people
563 so susceptible of imposition is also a serious griev-
ance. The convicts, as Russians, have an indirect ascendancy over the Kamtchatdales, which is exercised in a most intolerant and infamous manner. The convicts frequently desert, and commit every species of villany and outrage, even to the fomenting of insurrections. This was the case during my stay in the peninsula; nor are the Kamtchatdales so dull, but that they remember Count Beniofsky
000 with horror. If the government of Russia really
feel interested in the prosperity of Kamtchatka, and I don't doubt it, they have an easy mode of effecting it, by transplanting thither two or three thousand Yakuti, with their cattle. They are an industrious, ingenious, and peaceable people; and, being excellent herdsmen, they could not, of course, but thrive in a country of such extensive and rich pastures.

I cannot refrain from mentioning what appears to me a most desirable plan of administering a direct, and yet in-expensive relief to these poor people: Let the yasack be totally abolished, and let

000 each family of the aborigines be compelled to take
from the government one pood of flour per month,
at the price, say, of a sable or fox skin. The result
would be, that government would issue an extra six
thousand poods of flour at an expense of sixty thou-
sand roubles, in return for which they would receive
six thousand skins, worth at least ninety thousand
roubles; leaving a gross profit of four times the
price of the present yasack, and actually assisting
the Kamtchatdales by the abandonment of a direct
tax of half the amount—to say nothing of the bene-
fits which would accrue from such a measure to the
females and children who are now left for many
days without tasting any other food than bad fish
651 or the bark of trees. I do not know what effect a
R poll-tax may have upon the animal frame, but it
177 appears to be no incitement to procreation. In
.65 Kamtchatka it is the same as in Mexico; a single
man pays a heavy tax, a married man a heavier,
and a father the heaviest of all. Such conduct is bad
policy on the part of government, and carries with
it more the appearance of a wish to extinguish than
to increase the population of Siberia.

437 I have already commented upon the evil effects
563 arising from forced levies, and forced services; of
661 the transport of flour, salt, spirits, the post, as well
R as officers from one place to another without any
177 remuneration to the inhabitants. Of the conduct of
.66 these travelling gentlemen, high and low, it will be
sufficient to give a specimen. The officer, upon
arriving at a village, is received by the Toion or

437 Chief, and conducted to the warmest and cleanest
563 part of the yourte. His upper garments are taken
374 from him, cleared of the snow and put out in the
661 open air for the night; it being understood that
R the colder the dress is put on in a cold country,
.177 the warmer it ultimately becomes. The landlady, or
.66 Toionsha, is also engaged in scraping the boots of the travellers, to prevent the heat of the room from melting the snow which adheres to them. The best provisions are then got ready as fast as possible, either for dinner or supper, as the time may suit. The Toion then comes in with a reluctant smile and a pair of handsome sables, and bowing to the officer, places them upon the table for his acceptance. Dinner being at length served up, the officer may be considerate enough to give the Toion a glass of spirits, as also to permit the family to partake of the tea-leavings. Having finished his dinner, the officer asks the Toion if the chase has been good, and how many sables he has got, probably two, four or six, which he accordingly takes for as many handkerchiefs, pieces of nankeen, pounds of tobacco, or a small quantity of tea and sugar. The dogs of the village are at last ordered out and the officer departs, in perfect complacency with his conduct and condescending demeanour.

000 I have never been able to ascertain the exact number of animals annually caught in the peninsula, but suppose they cannot fall short of thirty thousand, worth at least two hundred thousand roubles. One

231 overflowing of the rivers. My reason is, that no
enclosure is to be found upon the land side, but
only on the borders of the rivers, and small streams,
and there they are perfect; and we are generally
informed that the Kamtchatdales possessed no other
domestic animals than dogs.

Before entirely closing these remarks respecting
Kamtchatka, and its grievances, I may just advert
563 to one or two points not hitherto dwelt on. The
793 children of the natives receive no education, and
871 the children of the Russians but little more. There
R certainly is a school existing in St. Peter and St.
177 Paul's, governed by a priest, and regular schoolmaster;
.87 but one is a great rogue, and the other
a greater sot. The sum allowed for the maintenance
of each child is, I believe, five pounds per
annum, scarcely enough to buy clothing, and were
it not for the abundance of fish caught, and some
assistance from their families, I really do not see
563 how the boys could be kept alive. Of the clerical
793 gentlemen themselves, I may observe, that they
R maintain a great distinction between practice and
177 precept. They are very numerous: I know not what
.79 so many do in so poor a place, there being no congregations
to employ so great a number. The revenue
received by these reverend gentlemen is far from
inconsiderable, and although it is done under the
disguise of voluntary contribution, still it presses
heavy upon the people; and heavier still when it is
considered that they do little work of any kind be-

29:Cochrane T-2(1821-22)1824 Kamchadal

563 sides trade. Of late the Emperor has given the cler-
793 gy an allowance of flour as well as a regular salary,
R and it may therefore be hoped that the natives will,
177 at least, be so far benefited as to have fewer of their
.79 visits, except on their spiritual concerns.

000 Whether the Russian government will pay any attention to the serious and deplorable situation of the peninsula of Kamtchatka is of no personal consequence to me, though I may well feel a strong interest concerning a place in which I resided for more than a year, and where I married. The ceremony was attended with much more pomp and parade than if it had been celebrated in England: it took place on the 8th of January, and I certainly am the first Englishman that ever married a Kamtchatdale, and my wife undoubtedly the first native of that peninsula that ever visited happy Britain.

The winter was passed in a constant round of hospitality and comfort, and hardly any thing re-
133 markable occurred to call for observation. Three shocks of earthquakes were felt, two of them very severe: one threw the sand up from the banks of the river Kamtchatka, and quite annihilated the snow; the Kliuchefska Sopka also
132 emitted flames and lava. The snow began to disappear at St. Peter and St. Paul's in the beginning of May. By the middle of the month one of the transports sailed from the port to Nishney Kamtchatsk, reaching it in five days; and by the latter

[in the winter of 1821-22--Analyst]

000 with a file of English newspapers, magazines, &c. which employed me till the 1st of July, when we were ready to sail.

361 St. Peter and St. Paul's, the chief city of the peninsula of Kamtchatka, contains forty-two dwellings, besides fifteen edifices belonging to the government, an old church, and the foundation of a new one. Among the public buildings are to be reckoned magazines for bread, for powder, for sailors, for convicts, for wine, and for arms; a guard-house, smithy, hospital, chancery, school, and a building for the chief and his assistant. All, however, with the exception of the hospital, sailor's barracks, and school, are at best, like the rest of the city, emblems of misery and wretchedness. I have never seen even on the banks of the Frozen Sea so contemptible a place, hardly meriting the name of a village, much less that of a city; yet such is the place which has been so eulogized from one end of the world to the other. The erection of hospitals, of schools, of churches, and the diffusion of happiness, have been extravagantly vaunted of in magazines and reviews, in defiance of the most lamentable facts of a very opposite description.

563 I cannot imagine what a governor has to do in
609 such a place; a civil commissary would surely
631 have been enough. The only people, in my opi-
R nion, who can be called happy, are the Koriaks,
177 because they are independent. The Russians com-
.63 plain of being sent to such a vile place, utterly

563 destitute of society; the Creoles of their being
609 kept in a state of poverty; while the Kamtchat-
631 dales bitterly lament the association with either the
R one or the other. It has been observed that St.
177 Peter and St. Paul's can never be a good town,
.63 owing to its want of wood. It may be asked, why then was the seat of government removed from a more eligible place, Nishney Kamtchatsk, or why was it not removed to the centre of agriculture and population, so far as either can be said to exist? It has been already changed three times, and is, I be-
631 lieve, destined to another removal. Kamtchatka
R neither can nor will thrive so long as its chiefs are
177 sent for five years only: such a short period
.63 scarcely allows them the time of doing good, however well disposed they may be. The general mode of occupying the allotted term may be thus described. The first year is employed in looking about and forming places for the improvement of the country, the amelioration of the condition of the aborigines, &c.: the second year is passed in making reports, stating opinions, &c.: the third year brings the reply of the government, directing or authorizing the mode of administration: the fourth is employed in preparing or at most in acting upon such orders: while the fifth and last year is generally employed in preparing to return to Europe, and levying a parting contribution:—and thus the whole five years are, more or less, taken up in trading and accumulating as much

2: Schrenck--268 E-5 (1854-1856) 1881-1895 RX2 Gilyak

Ainu AB6
Kamchadal RY3

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/127 cont./ The next and last of the Kurile Islands, Schumschu /Shumshu/, on the other hand, received its population, not from the south anymore, but from the north, from the adjacent Kamchatka Peninsula. It was not Ainu, but Italmen or Kamchadal, who originally visited this island only to trap animals, but after the arrival of the Russians in Kamchatka, they began to take up permanent residence out of fear of having to pay tribute to the latter and because of quarrels among themselves (2). The names of the islands mentioned also suggest

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> 2. Steller, op. cit., pp. 7, 30; Krasheninnikov", op. cit., Vol. I, p. 143; Vol. II, pp. 2, 4.

this spread of the Ainu and Italmen over the Kuriles, for in the Ainu language "Poro mosiri" or "Poro-moschiri" means "large island" (3), and "samatsch" is said to mean "island" in the

> 3. Not simply "island," as Steller (op. cit., p. 7) interprets the name "Buru muschi" and the "Paramusir" made from it, so he thinks, by the Russians.

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Italmen language (4). Moreover, the Italmen on the island of

> 4. Steller, op. cit., p. 6. This is the reason why the inhabitants of the southern tip of Kamchatka call the inhabitants of the islands "Sumtschuai," i.e., islanders (Steller, op. cit., p. 7.

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Schumschu and on the southern tip did not maintain relations with the Ainu from the more distant islands without mixing with them: for many years they have entered into marriages

2: Schrenck--269 E-5 (1854-1856) 1881-1895 RX2 Gilyak
Kamchadal RY3
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with them, and since they moved back and forth between the mainland and the nearest island, and, on the other hand, the Ainu, too -- who, as Steller says, roam about on the sea as the Tartars do on land -- repeatedly came to Kamchatka, a mixed people made up of Italmen and Ainu was formed on the entire southern part of the peninsula and showed many differences in outward appearance and in language from the Kamchadal living farther north (5). It is therefore not surprising that in the beginning the Russians took the inhabitants of southern Kamchatka for the same people as those inhabiting the islands, the Ainu, and designated them, like the latter, with the name "Kuriles" (6).

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5. Steller, op. cit., pp. 7, 23; Krasheninnikov", op. cit., Vol. I, p. 143; Vol. II, p. 4.

6. Hence the contradiction between the earlier assertions by Müller in his article, "Geographie und Verfassung von Kamtschatka aus verschiedenen schriftl. und mündl. Nachrichten gesammlet zu Jakuzk, 1737 /Geography and Organization of Kamchatka from Various Written and Oral Reports Collected in Yakutsk/" (in the appendix to Steller's Beschreibung von Kamschatka /Description of Kamchatka/ and those by Steller and Krascheninnikof. Müller (op. cit., p. 18) has the Kuriles living on Kamchatka along the east coast as far as Awatscha and on the west coast as far as the Kompakowa River; he speaks of Bolscherezki Kuriles (p. 21); he regards the inhabitants of Schumschu, who, moreover, he has coming from the north, as Kuriles just like those on Poromuschir (p. 45), etc. To be sure, for the Kurile